هكذا من الأصل

THE TIMES

30p

No. 65,447 MONDAY DECEMBER 11 1995

12 PAGES OF SPORT
Premiership action, reports and results
PAGES 21-32



Skiing guide: the complete snow reports
PAGE 22



12 days of Christmas prizes
Starting today: a chance to win 12 Fortnum and Mason hampers
PAGE 10



Matthew Parris
Why are our MPs ugly, fat and spotty
PAGE 16



Son, 8, writes 'I need my Daddy to help me stop my Mummy and sisters from crying'

Murder grief of family and pupils

BY ANDREW PIERCE AND STEWART TENDLER

THE son of the murdered headmaster Philip Lawrence has written to Father Christmas asking for his Daddy back so that his Mummy and sisters can stop crying.

Lucien Lawrence's letter was released as the family gathered for a private Mass at their home in Ealing yesterday. In it, the eight-year-old boy said he hoped he was not being a nuisance, but he had changed his mind about wanting a telescope for Christmas.

Lucien's letter summed up the grief of family and friends as they struggled to come to terms with the death of Mr Lawrence, who was stabbed as he tried to protect a pupil from a gang on Friday.

Father Michael Hopley, who conducted the service yesterday, said that Mr Lawrence's wife, Frances, and their children, Maroushka, 21, Myfwany, 19, Unity, 13, and Lucien, were shattered by the murder. "All we can do at the present time is for the church and friends and neighbours to rally round."

Father Charis Piccolomini, who gave Mr Lawrence the last rites in the lobby of St George's RC School, Maida Vale, west London, was impressed by the family's strength. "I am still trying to make sense of what happened," he said. "But one thing that is beginning to speak to me is the wonderful way in which Philip's wife reacted when we learnt of his death.

"She turned to her children and said: 'The first thing we will do when we get home is do what Daddy would have done. We are going to go up to the loft and bring the Christmas tree down. Then we will switch on the lights because that is a symbol of life, and we are celebrating Daddy's life'."

Another family friend at the Mass yesterday said: "The family will be trying to celebrate Christmas as best they can. Frances went into the garden to pick some holly for the Christmas decoration."

In his letter, Lucien wrote: "Dear Father Christmas, I hope you are well and not too cold.

"I hope you won't think I am being a nuisance but I have changed my mind as to what I want for Christmas.

"I wanted to have a telescope but I now want to have my Daddy back because without my Daddy to help I will not be able to see the stars anyway.

"I am the only boy in the family now but I am not very big and I need my Daddy to help me stop my Mummy and sisters from crying.

"Love from Lucien Lawrence, age 8."

The letter was released at the request of the family as the police reported "considerable progress" in piecing together what had happened on Friday, in spite of receiving conflicting reports from the hundreds of pupils, staff and parents who had been questioned. Mr Lawrence, 48, died of a single stab wound to the chest after rushing to the aid of a 13-year-old boy being attacked by teenagers.

Detectives adamantly denied the attack involved any real members of the Chinese Triad gangs in London, but investigators are believed to be looking at a teenage gang which styled itself on the Chinese groups. They are also understood to have interviewed boys from the Pimlico area, several miles away.

Staff at the school meanwhile rejected reports that its pupils were embroiled in gang warfare. Andrew Graham, the acting head, said yesterday: "St George's is a normal, happy, family school. It is a source of security for pupils and parents: children thrive at St George's. We are bemused by references to gangs that have appeared in some reports. They depict a school we do not recognise."

A team of stress counsellors has already started talking to pupils, staff and parents, and they will move into the classrooms when lessons resume. The governors said last night that they had agreed to write off lessons today. Mr Graham said: "This will allow us to acknowledge our grief, reflect on our loss, and look to the future. Philip Lawrence would have wished us to get back to our routine as quickly as possible. With this in mind, we will be operating school as normal from Tuesday."

Joanna Scott, the vice-chairman of the governors, praised the courage of everyone involved in the school and said: "The governors would plead and seek the co-operation of everyone to enable Andrew Graham to take the school, and all its community, forward to allow the healing process to begin today".

Teachers' leaders will today meet Gillian Shephard, the Education Secretary, to discuss school discipline, and David Hart of the National Association of Head Teachers said yesterday that teachers might have to think twice about "playing the hero".

At the same time, the Home Secretary is consulting police chiefs about increasing the penalties for people who carry knives. The law on the possession of knives has been substantially unchanged for the past seven years. The Criminal Justice Act, 1988, imposed a fine of up to £400 for those carrying an "article with a blade or point", and although the maximum fine was increased to £1,000 in 1992, the law remained the same.

Yesterday Michael Howard indicated that he might introduce prison sentences for carrying knives and give the police further powers to arrest youths with weapons, even if there was no proof that they intended to use them.

The Abbot of Ealing and the local MP, Harry Greenway, meanwhile launched an appeal to help Mr Lawrence's family and to provide a memorial to him. In a letter to *The Times*, they wrote: "The numbness and shock of this appalling tragedy are keenly felt by the whole monastic, parish and wider community. We hope the sentiments of grief and support that are being expressed by so many will, at least in some measure, be of comfort to Frances and her family."

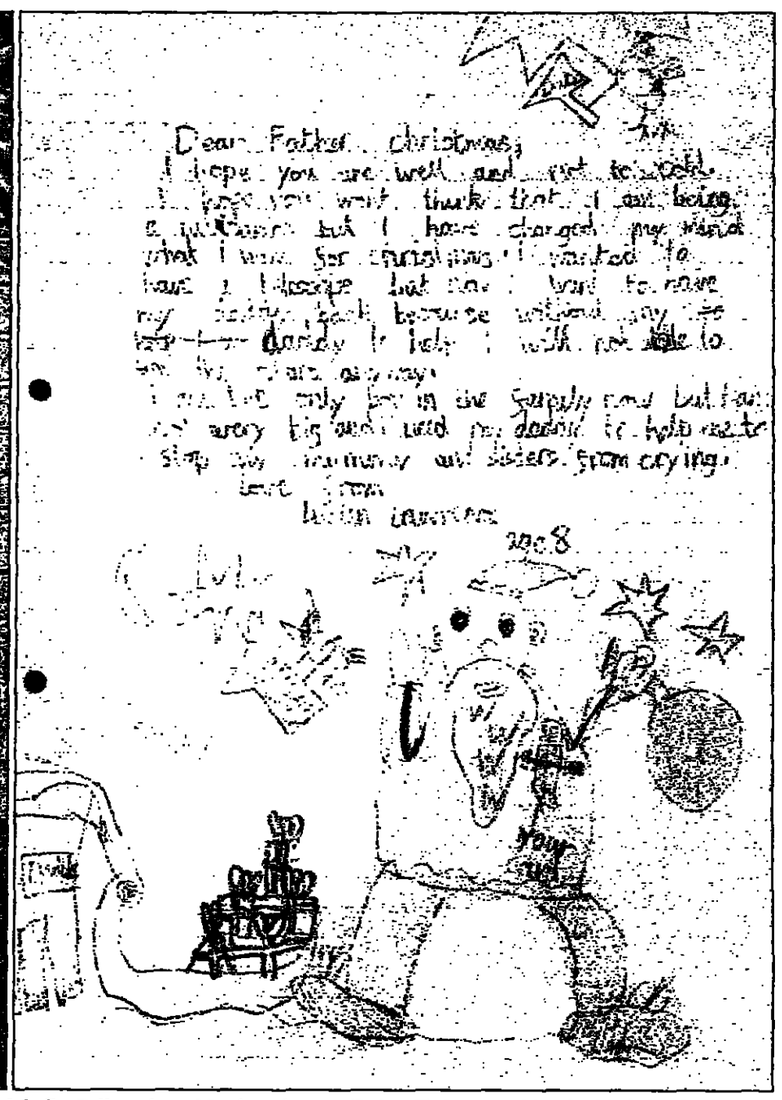
Donations to The Philip Lawrence Memorial Fund should be sent c/o Ealing Abbey, Charlbury Grove, Ealing, London W5 2DY.

'Philip Lawrence was prepared to fight the good fight... he did not flinch and in the end he died in it'

William Rees Mogg — Page 16

Pupils mourn, and Paul Barker, page 3
Leading article, and Letters page 17



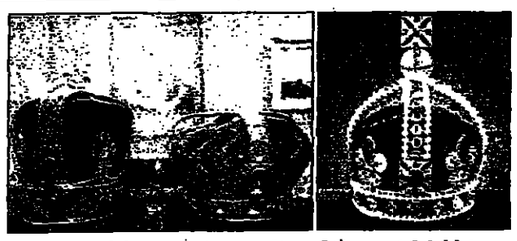


Frances Lawrence, the murdered headmaster's wife, goes out with her son Lucien to pick holly. Police released Lucien's letter to Father Christmas asking for his father back

Anger over Barings bonus

The former deputy chairman of Barings, Andrew Tuckey, who is now a consultant to the merchant bank, was under attack by MPs over a Christmas bonus said to be worth up to £500,000.

Jonathan Stone, the lawyer representing the Barings bondholders action group, whose members lost more than £100 million when Barings crashed, expressed dismay that any senior executive employed at the time of the collapse of Britain's oldest merchant bank should be benefitting without the "real victims" receiving any compensation offer ..... Page 40



George IV's crown, George I's and Queen Adelaide's

Brunei Prince saves crowns for Britain

BY DALYA ALBERGE, ARTS CORRESPONDENT

THREE crowns worn at Coronations by six successive British monarchs have been saved for the country by the younger brother of the world's richest man.

Prince Jefri Bolkiah, the younger brother of the Sultan of Brunei, has bought the crowns, including the Imperial State Crown of George I and the Coronation Crown of George IV, as well as the Coronation Bible of George III, as a gift to Britain.

The crowns, which were being sold by Asprey Antiques, jewellers to the Queen, for about £1.75 million, will be returned to the Crown Jewels in the Tower of London, where they were held from 1715 to 1838. News of the bequest yesterday delighted heritage groups, which last week began a huge struggle to raise funds after *The Times* revealed that the treasures were expected to go to America. Numerous collectors were queueing to buy them, and an export licence was due to be granted on January 24.

Prince Jefri, 46, is the majority owner of Asprey, after acquiring 90 per cent of its shares last Thursday. Earlier this month, it was reported that he was acquiring the company for £243.5 million.

A spokeswoman for the Prince said yesterday that Bruneians were very close to the British.

Juppé ready to talk to strikers

FROM ADAM SAGE IN PARIS

ALAIN JUPPÉ, the French Prime Minister, moved to end the two week strike that has paralysed the country last night when he invited union leaders to wide-ranging discussions today.

He also announced a series of concessions on key aspects of the dispute as he sought a solution to the protest that thrown France into turmoil.

He insisted that his welfare reform programme, which is at the heart of the conflict, could not be withdrawn. This insistence makes it far from certain that the unions will call off their action.

The Prime Minister said on television: "We have to find a way out by dialogue and by discussion. We cannot remain in a situation that will have catastrophic consequences."

Looking tired and drawn, M Juppe said that he was ready to meet union leaders for discussions on his welfare reform programme covering "whatever ground they want".

Elusive solution, page 8

Motorists to face fog chaos on roads

BY IAN MURRAY

MOTORISTS were advised to beware of freezing fog conditions today which is expected to paralyse traffic.

The warning came as dense fog cut visibility in parts of the South and East yesterday to less than 50 yards, and up to 100 cars were involved in a pile-up on the M1.

The London Weather Centre said many roads were likely to be blocked this morning and advised: "If you don't have to travel don't go out on the roads."

Black ice and fog turned roads into ice rinks causing hundreds of accidents. By 5pm, the AA said it had rescued 17,000 motorists, and the figure was expected to reach 30,000 by midnight.

Five people were seriously hurt in a series of accidents on the M1 to the south of Luton and another 20 required treatment as all four lanes of the southbound carriageway were blocked for four hours.

Police said the pile-up occurred when motorists travelling downhill at speed in bright sunlight braked suddenly on hitting a dense pocket of fog. At least three articulated lorries jack-knifed across the lanes and several cars overturned.

The AA said: "People do not seem to understand that they can be travelling in sunshine one moment and unable to see their hand in front of their face the next."

Last night, thousands of airline passengers were stranded as freezing fog halted services. Dozens of flights from and Gatwick were diverted or cancelled. British Airways cancelled all 49 shorthaul flights scheduled to leave Heathrow and Gatwick. British Midland said 29 European flights were lost.

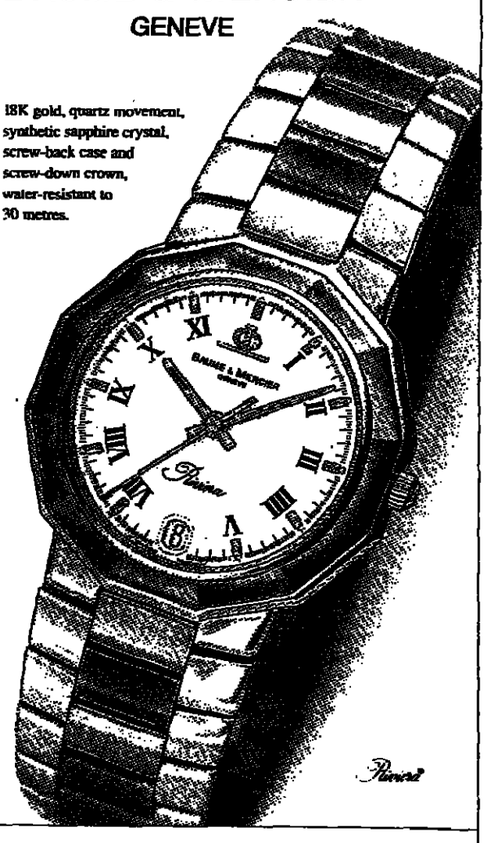
"Conditions at Heathrow are very difficult, with a significant number of delays and cancellations," a spokesman said. "The terminals have become very congested."

The fog is expected to thin slowly in the South today, with grey and murky skies moving northwards. High pressure in the South will continue to produce frosty conditions.

Forecast, page 20

BAUME & MERCIER
GENEVE

18K gold, quartz movement, synthetic sapphire crystal, screw-back case and screw-down crown, water-resistant to 30 metres.



Available from Watches of Switzerland, selected branches of Mappin & Webb and leading independent jewellers.

For more information on your nearest stockist please call 0171 312 6800.

Buying The Times overseas: Austria Sch 40; Belgium B Frs 80; Canada $3.25; Canaries Pes 325; Cyprus C£1.20; Denmark Dkr 18.00; Finland Fmk 17.00; France F 14.00; Germany DM 4.50; Gibraltar 90p; Greece Dr 450; Netherlands Fl 4.50; Irish Republic 45p; Italy L 4,500; Luxembourg Lf 60; Madeira Esc 350; Malta 45c; Morocco Dir 27.00; Norway Kr 20.00; Portugal con Esc 350; Spain Pts 325; Sweden Skr 18.00; Switzerland S Frs 4.00; Tunisia Din 2.200; USA $3.50.

9 770140 046213 50

TV & RADIO 38, 39	LETTERS 17	ARTS 12, 13	SPORT 21-32
WEATHER 20	OBITUARIES 19	CHESS & BRIDGE 32	MIND AND MATTER 14
CROSSWORDS 20, 40	WILLIAM REES-MOGG 16	COURT & SOCIAL 18	LAW REPORT 33

THIS WEEK IN THE TIMES

TUESDAY

THE TIMES ITF INTERACTIVE TEAM FOOTBALL

PLAY TO WIN £50,000

See how your players are performing

PLUS: 11 cases of Moët & Chandon to be won

WEDNESDAY



ESSENTIAL FASHION

Iain R. Webb on Jaeger's city chic

PLUS: 10 M&S vouchers worth £150 to be won

THURSDAY

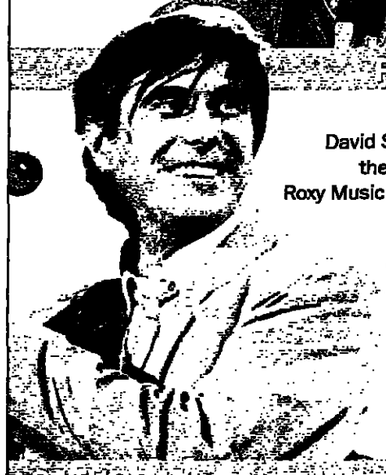
FILMS OF THE WEEK

Babe, the Christmas movie with a porky star

PLUS: 9 satellite dishes to be won



FRIDAY



POP

David Sinclair on the definitive Roxy Music collection

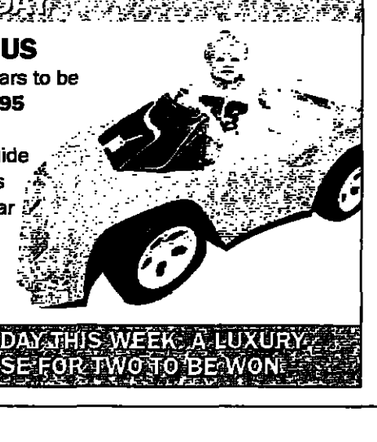
PLUS: 8 Sony Discmans to be won

SATURDAY

CARS R US

Ten kiddie cars to be won, in **Car 95**

PLUS: your complete guide to Christmas and New Year television and radio, in **Vision**



EVERY DAY THIS WEEK A LUXURY CRUISE FOR TWO TO BE WON

Camelot denies offering bribe to Branson

By Tim Jones

RICHARD BRANSON, the chairman of Virgin, has accused a senior member of the board of Camelot of offering him a bribe to drop his bid to run the National Lottery.

Mr Branson said the offer was made at his home in London by Guy Snowden, chairman of the American GTech lottery corporation, which owns a 22.5 per cent stake in Camelot. He said it happened in the presence of the head of a well-known British company, whose identity was not revealed.

At the time of the alleged meeting, Mr Branson was tipped to be awarded the contract because of his promise that the profits from the lottery would be given to charity. Mr Branson said Mr Snowden wanted him to pull out so that the profits of Camelot could be increased.

Mr Snowden said last night that the allegations, made in tonight's edition of *Panorama* on BBC1, were "outrageous, defamatory, and untrue". He said Mr Branson had invited him to his home for the purpose of trying to hire GTech as part of his lottery consortium. He added: "He had a lot to gain by reporting these allegations to Oflot [the official watchdog for the National Lottery] on a timely basis. The effect of this would have been materially to affect Camelot's bid at the starting gate."

Tim Holley, chief executive of Camelot, said: "We utterly refute that the approach took place and we are amazed that he would have waited for so long before making such an astounding accusation." Both Mr Snowden and Mr Holley questioned why Mr Branson had not used the alleged incident in pursuit of his own application.

On the programme, Mr Branson says: "The gist of the conversation was ... 'Look, you know the Government have made it very easy and very open for us. They are going to let a private company make a fortune out of this. But if you go and bid on a charitable basis and offer to put all your money to charity we are going to have to drop what we offer considerably, which is going to cost us hundreds of millions of pounds.'"

Mr Branson said the conversation continued: "'Well, I don't know how to phrase this, Richard. There is always a bottom line. I'll get to the point. In what way can I help you, Richard?'" Mr Branson continued: "Then I obviously asked him what he meant and he said, 'I am sure everybody needs something.' I basically told him that I was quite successful and only needed one breakfast, one lunch and one dinner a day."

The Virgin chief, who has frequently criticised the way the lottery is run, added: "I was so flabbergasted that I actually went to the loo and scribbled what he said on a piece of paper. I just couldn't believe that I had heard it."

Interviewed on the programme, Peter Davis, Director-General of Oflot, says that in several meetings with Mr Branson he was never aware of him ever making such an allegation.



Branson: wanted to give all profits to charity

Ministers rally round embattled Mawhinney

By Jill Sherman, political correspondent

SENIOR Cabinet ministers rallied round Brian Mawhinney last night after it emerged that the Tory party chairman had been given a dressing down by Lord Mackay of Clashfern, the Lord Chancellor, over the leaking of a draft speech that he did not deliver.

Michael Heseltine and Michael Howard both gave their backing to Dr Mawhinney as they turned their fire on Labour for trying to exploit the blunder. Tony Blair used a speech on Friday to claim that ministers and civil servants were being used as party political pawns.

The Deputy Prime Minister accused Mr Blair's spin doctors of debasing the political system with media manipulation on an unprecedented scale. Mr Heseltine also suggested that the row between Dr Mawhinney and the Lord Chancellor had been dreamt up by Labour propagandists.

"Every day there is a new story, new allegation of some sort about the Government in some newspaper, often put there by people in the Labour Party who are totally devoted to creating these sorts of stories," Mr Heseltine said when questioned about the alleged Cabinet feud on BBC Radio 4's *The World this Weekend*.

"The fact is there is a manipulative machine at work in the Labour Party today, the like of which we have never seen in domestic politics."

Lord Mackay was said to be furious last Thursday when a report in *The Daily Telegraph* suggested that he would use a speech to "warn judges to keep in line". On the strength of a Central Office briefing, the paper said the Lord Chancellor was due to speak that night at Guildhall.

However, Lord Mackay had attended a Guildhall function the previous evening, when he had delivered only a toast rather than a lengthier speech he had planned. Sources close to the Lord Chancellor confirmed last night that Dr Mawhinney had been summoned to see him on the day that the paper published its report.

It is known that relationships between Lord Mackay, not traditionally a political animal, and Dr Mawhinney have not been good. He was said to be surprised that the party chairman raised the topic of the judiciary in his party conference speech.

Yesterday Mr Heseltine, who now chairs a daily meeting attended by Dr Mawhinney and other members of Central Office to discuss the handling of the day's events, admitted that the Tory party needed to go into battle against Labour spin doctors.

"The Conservative Party, not the Government, is now preparing itself for the techniques that we are going to have to fight, because we have watched the way in which [the Labour spin doctors] Alastair Campbell and Peter Mandelson are now handling and distorting the news in this country."

Opposition accusations that a Tory lie machine was at work, reducing Whitehall to an extension of Conservative Central Office, was "the most brazen distortion of the facts that I have come across," he said.

Mr Howard, the Home Secretary, defended earlier Central Office briefings on a Nigerian refugee who was being deported. He said that the information given by Central Office had already been put into the public domain. He said on BBC Television's *Breakfast with Frost* that details on asylum cases would remain confidential until the applicants put them into the public domain. If this information was then distorted, it was appropriate for the Government to put its own side.



John Killick, killed in a superstore car park

Knifed guard died to protect women

By A Staff Reporter

A SECURITY guard who was beaten and stabbed to death is believed to have sacrificed his life to protect two female colleagues. John Killick, 60, died after a frenzied stabbing in the car park of the Asda store in Scunthorpe where he had worked for ten years.

Police say he confronted a masked attacker who jumped out of bushes as Mr Killick escorted two women from the petrol station where they worked.

Detectives believe the motive was robbery, but the bag Mr Killick was carrying last night contained only receipts and paperwork. He threw it away and grabbed the man, who hit him with an iron bar. Mr Killick was then stabbed repeatedly in front of the terrified women.

Detective Superintendent Tony Corrigan described the attack as "brutal and frenzied". "It may be he was protecting his female colleagues," he said. "He has to be commended for what he has done."

The women involved are said to be "extremely traumatised" and are receiving counselling.

Shocked neighbours in Ferry Road, Scunthorpe, spoke of the "lovely" man who lived for his wife, Brenda, their children Julia and David, and five young grandchildren.

A neighbour, Kulbir Kaur, said: "He's just the sort of man who would protect people like that. He looked after us all the time. If anything broke he used to come round and mend it for us. He was very nice — a gentle man with a great personality. What has happened to him is terrible."

Another neighbour who has known the couple for 34 years said: "He was the best neighbour you could hope for. We were great friends. He was a lovely man who lived for his family."

Mr Killick, who used to work at a local civil engineering firm, had been married for 35 years. Asda is offering a £5,000 reward for information leading to conviction of the killer.

A company spokesman, Alan Preece, said the 400 staff at the Burringham Road store, which is closed today, were "very shocked and saddened".

He said Mr Killick was an extremely popular man who had won the employee of the month twice in the past 12 months and was in the running for the employee of the year award.

"If there is any threat, anything that an employee is holding should be thrown away. We wouldn't expect them to jeopardise their personal safety for anything."

Police are studying security videos to see if the attack was recorded.

Labour council leader fights to stay

By Ian Murray

DAVE CHURCH will fight to stay on as leader of Walsall Council tonight when it meets for the first time since he and four other radical leftwingers were suspended by the Labour Party's National Executive Committee.

The suspension means that Mr Church is not eligible for party office and cannot therefore lead the Labour group. Last Thursday 18 moderate members of the 34-strong group chose Ray Farrell, a former deputy leader, as Mr Church's replacement.

However, Mr Church does not believe that loss of the Labour group leadership means he has to step down as leader of the council. He has the support of 14 Labour councillors, who resigned from committee posts last week in protest at the NEC suspensions.

"There is a council decision that I am the leader and that has not been rescinded," Mr Church said last night. "There is nothing on the agenda to replace me and no way of raising the matter. If the meeting gets out of order, the mayor has the power to abandon it."

Cyril Leaker, the mayor, is one of Mr Church's supporters and has twice recently cut short stormy committee meetings when there was criticism of the radical programme for decentralising Walsall.

Even though the moderates now control the Labour group, Mr Church believes it will be difficult for them to abandon the plan to create 54 local council offices in place of the town hall. This was approved by the regional party as part of the group manifesto before last May's local elections when the Conservatives lost control in Walsall.

"We have already saved £175,000 by cutting the number of chief officers from nine to five," Mr Church said. "I can't imagine they will go back on that and don't know where they will find the extra money if they are daft enough to try it."

The 20-strong Conservative group has decided not to take advantage of the split in the Labour group to form a ruling coalition with Liberal and Independent members. "It would be like taking over the captaincy of the Titanic," Melvyn Pitt, a leading Tory councillor said.

Heath may vote Labour on Europe

Sir Edward Heath said yesterday that he might support a Labour government in Commons votes on Europe because of John Major's continuing shift towards Euroscepticism. The former Prime Minister made clear that he was increasingly irritated with the Government's stance on Europe, particularly a suggestion by Malcolm Rifkind, the Foreign Secretary, that Britain was prepared to be isolated in Europe. Sir Edward said on BBC1 that the party would lose public support if Britain seemed anti-European.

Jails warning

Michael Howard's tougher sentencing plans could increase the prison population by 28,000, the Penal Affairs Consortium, an alliance of 27 reform groups, said yesterday. When the proposals were outlined at the Conservative Party conference in October, the increase was unofficially estimated at 15,000 to 20,000.

Anti-crime plan

Householders should be given tax incentives to improve security on their homes and to help them buy private policing in an attempt to curb crime, a right-wing think-tank recommends today. David Pyle, the author of the Institute of Economic Affairs report, says the criminal justice system has been an expensive failure.

Welsh school row

Parents in Briton Ferry, West Glamorgan, are fighting plans to convert their children's English primary school into a school teaching only in Welsh. The 50 pupils at Hen Gwrt School will be transferred to other schools. Janina Lee, whose daughter is a pupil, said: "They are taking our school from us and giving it to outsiders."

Post haste

Today is the last day for posting Christmas letters and cards to Germany, Italy and Spain. Cards to other EU countries must be sent by Thursday. Within the UK, second class mail must be posted by Monday, December 18, and first class by December 20. Parcels for UK destinations must also be sent by December 18.

Simply the best value this Christmas.

FREE LIFETIME EXTENDED WARRANTY*



CELLPHONES DIRECT CHRISTMAS PACKAGE NOKIA 2010 £19.99 INC.VAT PLUS FREE IN-CAR ADAPTOR FREE LEATHER CASE TOGETHER WORTH OVER £40

NOKIA GSM MODEL 2010.

◆ 99 name/number memory ◆ 100 mins talk-time ◆ 30 hrs stand-by-time ◆ Complete with standard battery and fast travel charger ◆ Weight approx 320g

GUARANTEED PEACE OF MIND

Your phone is covered by our 14 days no quibble money back promise.

FREE CONNECTION TO CELLPHONE PERSONAL WORLD WITH NO TARIFF INCREASES GUARANTEED FOR LIFE

Monthly Rental	£17.63 (£15 + VAT)
Peak Rate Calls UK Wide	42p per min (35p + VAT)
Off Peak Calls	18p per min (15p + VAT)

Peak times 7.00-19.00 Mon to Fri. Itemised billings charged at £1.77 inc VAT per month. Line rental (debited monthly in advance) and airtime charges will be debited to your nominated credit/charge or Delta card. Calls charged in units of 30 seconds after the first minute. Overseas access £5.88 (inc VAT) for 28 days.

£35 CASH BACK ON YOUR AIRTIME BILLS

† Cash Back offer ends December 31st 1995.

Cellphones Direct

ORDER NOW FOR FREE LINE RENTAL UNTIL DECEMBER 31ST 1995 AND FREE DELIVERY IN 4 WORKING DAYS

FREEPHONE 0500 000 888

CREDIT CARD ORDERING HOTLINE WEEKDAYS 9AM TO 9PM WEEKENDS 9AM TO 5PM

PLEASE HAVE YOUR CREDIT CARD AND THIS ADVERTISEMENT HANDY WHEN YOU CALL AND QUOTE REF 2777 (SORRY WE ARE UNABLE TO ACCEPT SWITCH CARDS)

Offer subject to status and a standard airtime contract for each phone with Cellphones Direct Ltd, 185 Lower Richmond Road, Richmond-upon-Thames TW9 4LN * Full written details and terms and conditions of this offer are available on request. © Copyright. Registered No 2955222

Tories may adopt quota for women

By Alice Thomson, political reporter

THE Conservative Party is considering the introduction of a quota system for women because of fears that it will have far fewer female MPs than Labour after the next general election.

Labour has already selected 39 new female candidates for safe seats using all-women shortlists, while the Conservatives have chosen only three women for Tory-held constituencies.

Now Conservative Central Office is planning to boost its quota of women after the next general election. Under Tory proposals, a committee will remove "low calibre" men from the 600-strong Central Office list from which local parties choose their candidates and begin replacing them with high-powered women. The list is weighted with more than 450 men at the moment and the aim is to achieve an exact balance.

John Major is increasingly worried that the Tories could end up with only 15 female MPs after the next general election while Labour could have more than 100. He has told colleagues the Tories will risk looking outdated and boorish.

One senior aide said yesterday: "There is a lot of deadwood among the men and a lot of prima donnas getting in for the wrong reasons. We want to get some sensible, mature females who can sort us all out."

An agent who has just watched a male candidate being selected for his constituency in the Home Counties welcomed the move. "There is a bias against these career women but quite frankly we didn't have many to chose from anyway. This way constituencies will be inundated by female CVs and will find them harder to resist."

Dame Angela Rumbold, the Tory vice-chairman in charge of candidates and the first woman to have charge of the candidates' list, denied yesterday that the new scheme was a panic measure. "Our main problem is getting women to put their names forward even for a preliminary interview."

Three teenagers killed on the way home from disco

By A Staff Reporter

THREE teenagers died in a crash as they were returning from a disco at the weekend.

They were passengers in a Vauxhall Astra which failed to negotiate a left-hand bend near Rotherham, South Yorkshire, crossed the carriageway, hit the only tree growing on that stretch of road and ended up in a field, police said.

Daniel Bartholomew, 18, of Sheffield; and Cheryl Cardwell, 15, and her best friend Fiona Woodruff, 16, both from Hoyland, South Yorkshire, were all killed. The car's driver, Simon Grundy, 19, of Sheffield, was last night being treated for serious spinal injuries in the Northern General Hospital, Sheffield.

Carolyn Thorpe, Cheryl's aunt, said at the family home yesterday that the group of friends had been to a teenagers' disco in the Republic club in Sheffield on Saturday night. "Everyone is devastated. Cheryl was a very lively and attractive girl."

Cheryl and Fiona were pupils at Kirkbalk School, Barnsley. "They were the best of friends and used to go everywhere together," she said. "Cheryl was so happy when they went out last night."



Daniel Bartholomew: car crashed into tree



Cheryl Cardwell: so happy as she went out

Yesterday Cheryl's parents, Ian and Anne, were being comforted by friends and relatives. The couple have two other children: Shane, 17, and Haydn, 11.

A man who answered the phone at Simon Grundy's home said: "It was nothing more than an accident on a bad road. There was no speed involved and no drinking." No other vehicles are believed to have been involved in the crash, and police say road conditions played no part in the accident.

Police appealed for information about the crash. Sergeant Mick Sherwin said: "There was only one vehicle involved and we want to hear from anyone who might have seen this vehicle prior to the accident. Perhaps something they saw earlier, which did not seem too significant at the time, could now be important in view of what happened."

Parents join children as congregation pays respects to victim who protected his students

Our school will never be the same, say pupils

REPORTS BY ANDREW PIERCE AND STEWART TENDLER

PUPILS of St George's school went to church in their hundreds yesterday to pray for their dead headmaster and his family. Stress counsellors mingled with the congregation at Sacred Heart Roman Catholic Church before attending a meeting with school governors to advise on the delicate task of dealing with the grief sparked by the killing of Philip Lawrence.

Mr Lawrence, a strict disciplinarian who had been at the school for three years, had earned the respect and admiration of the children as educational standards improved under his tough regime.

Most were bewildered yesterday. Many more were in tears as they arrived for church under the watchful eye of their parents. Oswald Smith, 12, summed up the feelings of most when he said: "I used to love school, but now it will never be the same again." Another pupil said: "This is like a video nasty coming to life."

Members of the congregation at five separate services wept as Father Matthew O'Shea, in a moving sermon, said: "How can you begin to understand the senselessness of killing an innocent man? It is only one of so many incidents. Even worse is the thought that it might be forgotten. There is legislation in place about carrying knives. As if legislation can change the sickness in the heart of he who carries the knife or wants to carry the knife."

Prayers were said for Mr Lawrence, who attended the church regularly with staff and pupils. Prayers were also offered for William Njoh, the teenager who the headmaster had stepped in to help when he suffered the fatal stab wound. Louise Ward, 13, a classmate of William, said: "He is no angel, I have to admit, but he's got lots of friends and it's terrible this should have happened to him."



Oswald Smith: voiced views of many pupils

Dozens of floral tributes were laid at the gates of the school referring to "Lionheart", "Mr Strong, our tough but loveable headmaster", and a solitary school tie was attached to the railings with a rosary near by.

It emerged yesterday that the headmaster, concerned about attacks on his pupils by children from other schools, had advised them to go home in groups of at least two or three. Billy Merle, 12, said:

THE CHILDREN

"He said it was to keep us safe. Sometimes kids from other schools would pick on one of us. I have seen him step in before to help us. No one is surprised at what he did. We are really sick about what happened."

Father Denis Cornican, who comforted many of the more distressed members of the congregation, said: "I pray to God this is a one-off incident and is not typical of what society has become. This has always been a strong community. There is now a tremendous sense of shock.

"We are full of pain at the loss of Philip Lawrence. To be a Christian in our society is not easy. To be a Christian demands that we stand up and be counted."

Father Ray Warren, a governor of the school, wrote a moving tribute in his newsletter. "The whole parish is devastated and we send our sincere sympathy and our support to Philip's wife and children," he wrote.

"The evil in our society has caused the death of this good man, deprived his wife and children of his love and attacked our whole community at its very heart. St George's is a good school and we must keep it good.

"To those whose children attend there, do not let this evil frighten you, resolve to be even more supportive to the school for your childrens' sake. This incident does not reflect the ethos of the school or the area. The teachers and pupils are excellent."

Father Warren paid tribute to Mr Lawrence's skills and dedication. "In the last few years Philip transformed and renewed the school. He raised the standard of discipline, the quality of learning, and gave the children a new pride."

Brenda Maddock, a school governor, said: "We had looked forward to the school taking off under Mr Lawrence's leadership. This is dreadful for everybody involved. It is important to carry on to ensure that everything he has done over the last few years does not drain away."

Agnes Campbell, 72, whose 14-year-old grandson Liam goes to the school, said that there had been strong support for the headmaster's uncompromising attitude towards troublemakers. She said: "Anyone who caused trouble was out. He moved the children who were being intimidated. It made him enemies. It beggars belief that he had to lay down his life for what he so strongly believed in."

William Rees-Mogg, page 16
Leading article, and
Letters page 17

CHRIS HARRIS



Bouquets at the gates of St George's school. The messages paid tribute to "Lionheart" and "Mr Strong, our tough but loveable headmaster"

Pressure mounts for tougher punishments

BY JILL SHERMAN AND JOHN O'LEARY

THE LAW

MICHAEL HOWARD signalled the introduction of tougher punishments for people carrying knives in public as anger mounted yesterday over the killing of Philip Lawrence.

The Home Secretary is consulting with the Association of Chief Police Officers about increasing the penalties, currently a fine of up to £1,000, for carrying certain types of knives. He is also considering giving police new powers to arrest those with knives, whether or not they suspect the person is likely to use them.

Mr Howard said he would not make a "knee-jerk reaction to one event", but said that if the police felt there would be an advantage to toughening the law, it would be done.

Sources close to Mr Howard indicated that prison sentences may be considered as part of a package of measures to try to deter the growing "gang culture". Sentences are imposed for the carrying of "offensive weapons", but this does not generally apply to small knives with open blades.

In addition, Mr Howard is expected to encourage the wider use of closed-circuit television cameras in schools. Gillian Shephard, the Education and Employment Secretary, will discuss greater security in schools and the vulnerability of teachers at a meeting with heads today.

Teaching groups yesterday urged a measured response to Mr Lawrence's murder, and ruled out any move towards American-style high-security schools. Union leaders backed heavier penalties for carrying knives, but were wary of creating a "fortress mentality" in schools. Most have made submissions on the security of teachers as part of the Government's review of school discipline.

The Labour Party and the London branch of the Police Federation called for greater powers for the police to stop and search youth gangs. Labour does not advocate searching anyone on the spot, but is considering powers to allow police to search gangs on and near school premises.

Home Office sources pointed out that cross-party support for tougher sentencing would allow it to be introduced more rapidly, although they gave no timetable.

Mike Bennett, chairman of the federation's London branch, said the current system was a "charter for laziness" and arrested offenders were often let off with a caution. "We need a simple power of arrest for possession of a blade of more than three inches without authority or reasonable excuse so that they go before the courts," he said. "We believe the criminal record will be the deterrent. The youngsters know we do not have the powers."

The Police Federation of England and Wales called for laws to ban the sale of knives designed to injure.

Currently there are two types of offences involving dangerous weapons. Anyone found with an "offensive weapon" can get a maximum two-year prison sentence, but there has to be proof that they intended to use it. Those found with an "article with a blade or point" are liable to a maximum fine of £1,000, although there does not have to be proof of intent to use the weapon.

John Sutton, general secretary of Mr Lawrence's union, the Secondary Heads Association, said: "We have been worried that heads are facing a greater threat from intruders wandering into their schools, but there is no evidence that extreme measures would be justified."

Doug McAvoy, general secretary of the National Union of Teachers, said: "We have got to put this in perspective. Although there have been other serious assaults, schools are not becoming a blackboard jungle."

Head held record for expulsions

PHILIP LAWRENCE died because of his determination to make a stand against bad behaviour. In an interview with a local newspaper just before he died, he emphasised the dangers of carrying weapons.

"We don't expel lightly. Usually we give them seven or eight 'last chances' before we show them the door. The most serious offence, for which there is usually no second chance, is bringing in



Lawrence: said knives were most serious offence

THE DISCIPLINARIAN

a knife. So far, however, we have had no cases where pupils actually intended to use a weapon in the school.

"We do not tolerate consistent antisocial behaviour. I have expelled more than 60 pupils over the last three years, which has given me the dubious honour of holding the current record for the largest number of expulsions by any headteacher.

"The policy has proved popular with parents — our roll, despite the expulsions, is 47 per cent up."

Mr Lawrence added: "I am giving parents what they want: Christian values in their children. We believe that there is a difference between right and wrong. There is no relativist position. There is forgiveness, but there is wrong. And that is something that parents of whatever religious background are buying into. It's what their children need.

"The greater stability of the school is having an effect. Our exam results this year were 16 per cent higher than last. Next year we will be doing even better."

Streets of menace and boy robbers

ST GEORGE'S school, set in a maze of ageing council estates, is a short walk from Kilburn, the heart of Irish London. It is also at the northern tip of one of inner London's most mixed and volatile communities.

For decades, Irish labourers descended on the tough, inner city neighbourhood. They lived in often dilapidated bedsits or on sprawling council estates which now can become dangerous when darkness falls.

The past 20 years have seen big changes. Many members of ethnic minorities live in the bedsits and the Irish contingent has slowly edged in a northerly direction to more comfortable suburbs such as Colindale. Unemployment is high, many shops have closed down, and street violence is increasing.

To the west and south of the school are sprawling housing estates. Places like the Mozart estate have been thorns in the side of police for years. Further south are the long-established West Indian communities of north Kensington. Chinese groups in Bayswater, Spanish and Portuguese, Poles, and Somali families.

There are also sharp contrasts. St John's Wood, part of the school's catchment area to the east, has some of the most expensive houses in London. Stockbrokers, politicians, surgeons and actors populate the area. Many homes are heavily fortified.

The area is being targeted under the operation Eagle Eye initiative against young bag snatchers and street robbers. Boys aged 13 to 16 specialise in snatching bags, often to buy

THE AREA

fashion clothes. Older boys "tax" younger children. By the age of 16, the street robbers have started to use knives.

The collapse in attendance at the local Roman Catholic Church is the most dramatic evidence of the change in the area.

Sacred Heart Roman Catholic church, where prayers were offered for Philip Lawrence yesterday, used to attract 13,000 worshippers every Sunday in 1970. Today the figure hovers between 3,000-4,000. There were once eight priests. Now there are four.

Way of life and death in the ghettos

BY PAUL BARKER

THE young men Philip Lawrence confronted are said to model themselves on the Triad societies, the Chinese drug-and-murder gangs which now operate in Manchester and London.

"Gang" is a useful headline word. But is this just one of the recurrent moral panics that strike British society — the idea that some uncontrolled alternative social structure, the gang, is being created, with its own rules and a commitment to violence? In the past, on closer scrutiny, this has never turned out to be true.

Or does Mr Lawrence's death mark a social turning point, where an ethos more characteristic of the American ghettos is starting to establish itself on this side of the Atlantic? In almost every other aspect of life, Britain follows America. Is it now the turn of

THE GANGS

gangs and schools? Of course, in one sense, there have been gangs as long as there have been criminals. Graham Greene used racecourse razor gangs as the background to *Brighton Rock*. More recently, there were the Krays, whom we risk making into some kind of folk myth. The three men found shot dead in an Essex field last week are evidence that such a career choice is not just a matter for sentimental Cockney nostalgia. It is alive and deadly.

But other kinds of gang have long proved elusive in Britain. First Teddy Boys (Anthony Burgess's inspiration for *A Clockwork Orange*); then Mods and Rockers; then punks and skinheads — they existed (and exist), but more as styles of dress and behaviour than as organised gangs. The confrontations were almost always ritualistic, with minimal violence.

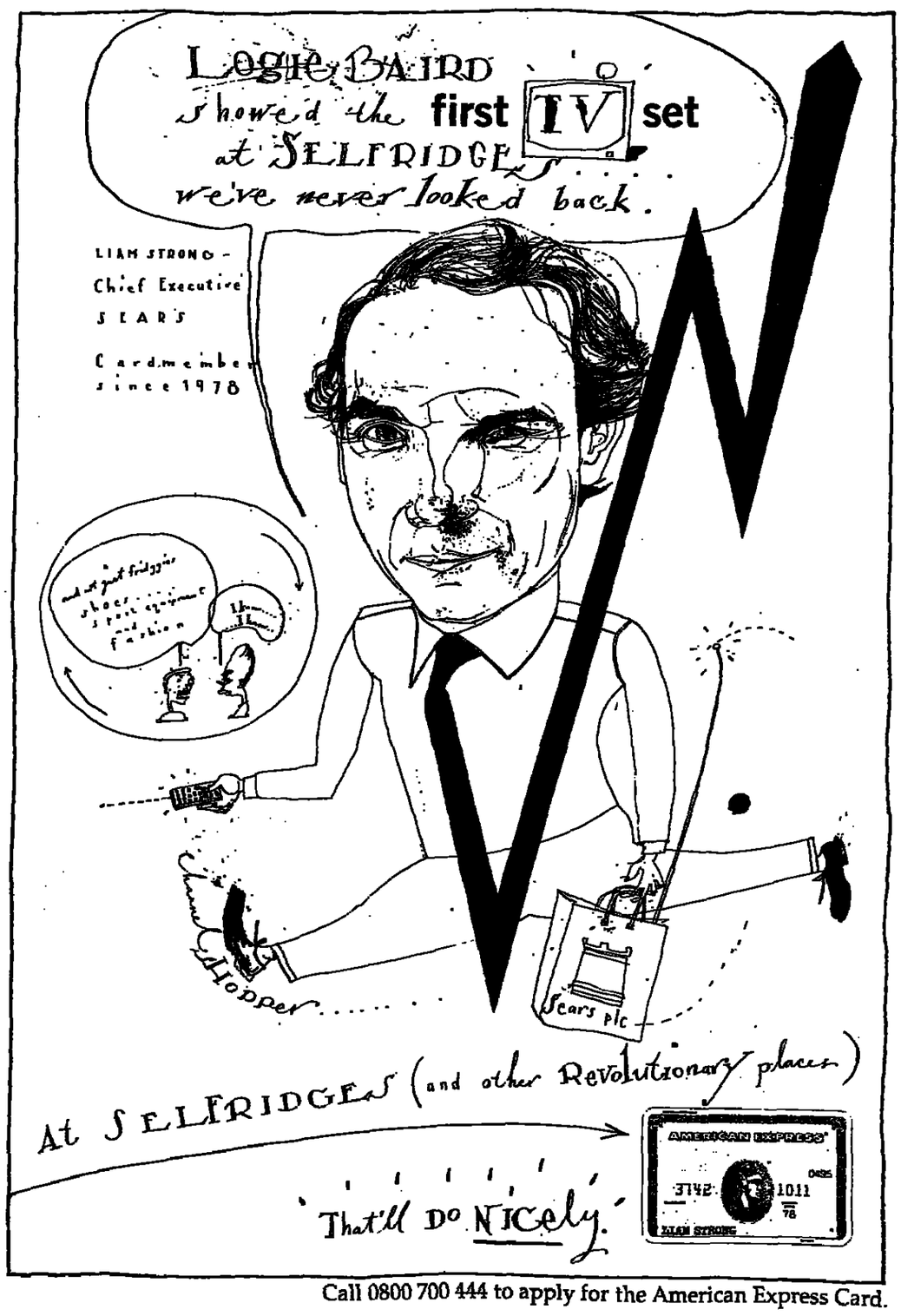
And yet . . . a change for the worse may be creeping up on us. In research in east London, John Pitt, of Brunel University, has found that teenagers at school, and young men up to 30 outside school, are beginning to form a continuum. A quarrel in school can become a vendetta out of school. This may all relate to the growth of a culture of unemployment in some urban neighbourhoods.

It could be the seedbed of gangs in the American sense. These are based on crime (usually drugs). But they develop elaborate, Mafia-like codes to unite each gang, and to define their enemies. The vendetta — a phenomenon which Britain, centuries ago, drove out of everyday life — is an essential part of the code. Blood must pay for blood. Such gangs are not casual groups of youngsters. Nor are they criminal families like the Kray brothers and their associates. They are an entire way of life. The gang is the primary allegiance of its members.

In the terrible South Side ghetto of Chicago, I recently went into some notorious apartment blocks. The janitor had put up a notice warning people who left in the evening not to flash their headlamps if they found a car without lights in their path. The new ritual by which a young teenager proved his worthiness to join the local Disciples was to wait in an unlit car for an unsuspecting stranger to flash, and then shoot him.

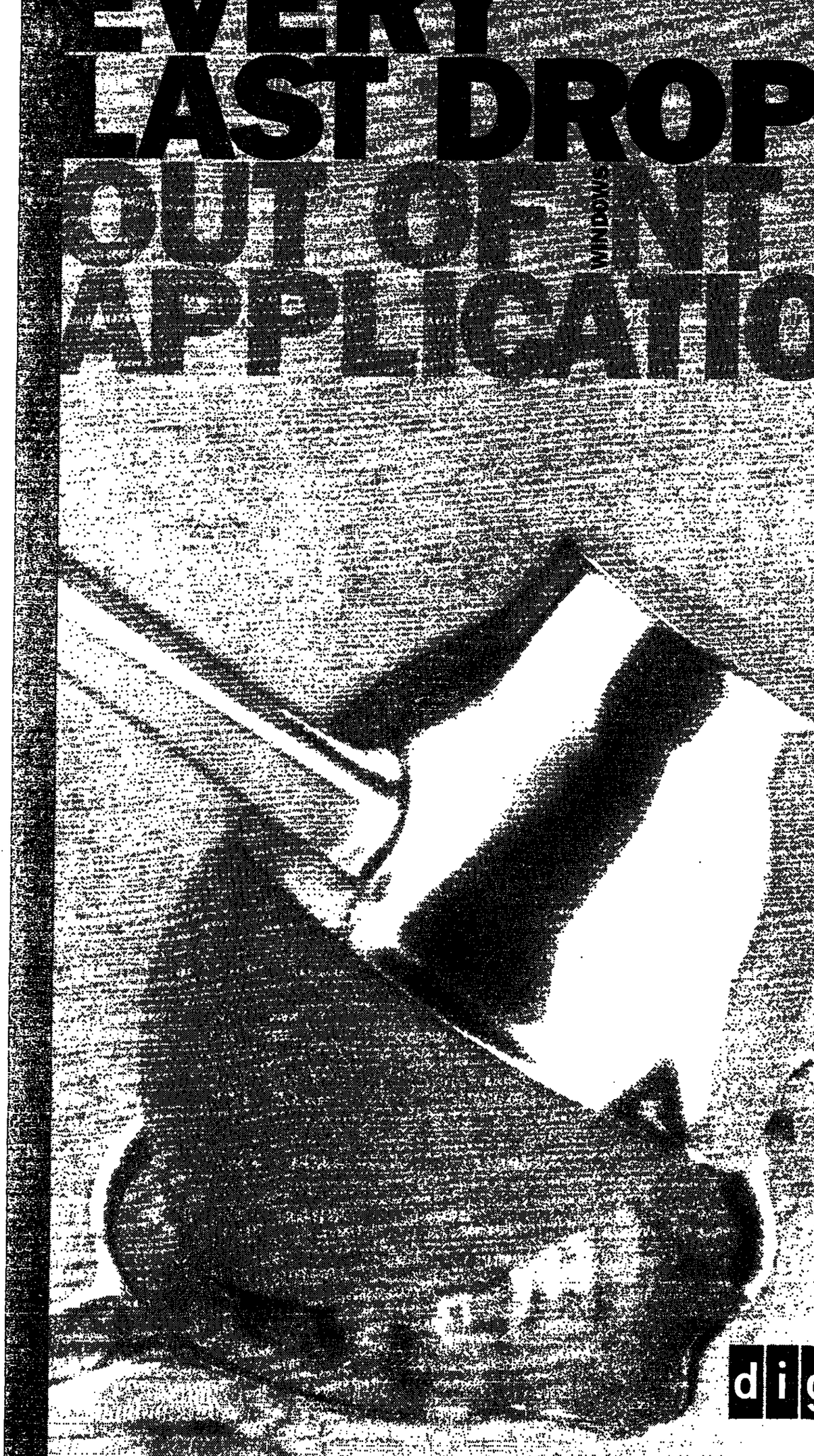
One way to tell rival South Side gangs apart was by small signs, such as which way they tilted their baseball cap. With the west London "Triad" gangs, it is reported to be how they knot their bandannas.

The author is a Senior Fellow of the Institute of Community Studies.



Call 0800 700 444 to apply for the American Express Card.

THE ONLY WORKSTATIONS BUILT TO SUIT EVERY LAST DROP OUT OF WINDOWS APPLICATIONS



Having built the only personal workstations designed to fully optimise Microsoft® Windows NT™, we at Digital admit to enjoying a certain pride in our achievement. Only our workstations will let you run Windows NT and deliver outstanding performance for many of the applications you use today – such as AUTOCAD, Microstation or PROENGINEER. And knowing that you're always thirsty for more power, we've got it to pour on. From one of our workstations you can break speed limits as you accelerate through numbers, 3D graphics, analysis and deadlines, leaving the neat computer desktop behind. There's a whole family of our factory-installed NT personal workstations. Whether you choose from the line of Intel's Pentium processors or our own Alpha processor models there is a Digital personal workstation to match your application needs – all delivering performance that is a 110%.

THE NEW NT WORKSTATIONS FAMILY. POUR ON THE POWER.

Pure adrenalin pumping sensation. To add to that buzz, and just to make sure there's absolutely no contest when it comes to your choice of NT personal workstations, we made our price tags as attractive as our machines. Complete the package with Digital's 3-year warranty, the support of our alliance with Microsoft, and the upgrading flexibility offered by the XL NT personal workstation family, and you'll see that the only way to get all of the fabulous juice running out of Windows NT is to squeeze a few minutes to call one of our Business Associates. You can also phone us on **0800 320 300** *or visit us on the World Wide Web at http://www.digital.com or e-mail us at moreinfo@digital.com*



CELEBRIS XL
100, 120, 133, 150 MHz
ALPHA XL
233, 266 MHz
Memory: 16MB to 384MB
Disks: 0.5, 1, 2, 4GB SCSI
I/O: 2PCI, 1PCI/ISA, 3 ISA
Storage: 5 bays for peripherals
Graphics: 3D Matrox Millennium

digital™

© 1995 Digital Equipment Corporation. Digital and the DIGITAL logo are trademarks of Digital Equipment Corp. Microsoft is a registered trademark and Windows NT is a trademark of Microsoft Corp. Pentium is a trademark of Intel Corp. All other products are trademarks of their respective companies. Product: OMG Brevetti Bialetti.

هكذا من الأصل

Rescue attempt rewarded with £400,000

Spinster remembers lost wartime love with lifeboat bequest

BY MICHAEL HORSNELL

A WOMAN who never recovered from losing her sweetheart at sea during the Second World War has rewarded the lifeboat station which searched in vain for him with £400,000 in her will.

Margaret Gill, 87, who lived frugally by herself in a council flat, left the money to the Royal National Lifeboat Institution station at Wells-next-the-Sea, Norfolk. Her estate was valued at £2.7 million.

Miss Gill, of Walton on the Hill, Surrey, gave no hint of her riches. She was a minister's daughter and worked as an auxiliary nurse at a children's hospital during the 1930s. She became one of the world's first women pilots, ferrying aircraft from the manufacturers to airfields.

She appears to have taken the name of her sweetheart to her grave. The pilot, who is believed to have ditched off the north Norfolk coast, is not known to the RNLI or her friends.

Many bombers ditched off the Norfolk coast but one, a Lancaster which crashed off Wells in 1942, might give a clue to the man's identity. The pilot was pulled from the wreckage but died despite the efforts of lifeboatmen to save him. Ted Neilson, a fisherman who was coxswain of the lifeboat, received an award for the hazardous rescue attempt, which was recorded on canvas by a local artist.

Richard Cracknell, secretary of the Wells RNLI station, said yesterday: "We shall be looking through our records to see if there are any clues to this man's identity.

"We are all quite moved and astonished by the bequest. It has come out of the blue and from someone of whom we had never heard. It seems Miss Gill was moved by the fact that a lot of trouble was taken by the lifeboatmen to save her sweetheart."

Some elderly residents believe Miss Gill occasionally holidayed at Wells after the war.

The spinster is believed to have left the rest of her estate to other charities. Mary Bush, a friend who cleaned and shopped for her, said the spinster had never got over losing her sweetheart. "She told me once that she would love to have had children but it was not to be. She said something about the young man who might have fulfilled that was lost at sea." Mrs Bush added that Miss Gill had written a poem in which she mentioned her lost love.

She had never seen any evidence of Miss Gill's fortune, which she believed to be inherited. "There is no way you could have called her extravagant. Her towels, sheets and blankets all had holes in them. She kept her finances totally secret from me," Mrs Bush said.

Miss Gill's god-daughter, Carol Murphy, explained how she had become a pilot: "Her doctor told her that to build courage she should try something no woman had tried before. Amy Johnson had flown to Australia solo in one direction and I think that Margaret flew the other way, although she was fiercely private about it and never wanted any publicity." Ms Murphy added that her godmother had been miserly and would often write letters with difficulty, wearing gloves because she would not turn on the heating in her flat.

The lifeboat bequest will be held by RNLI headquarters at Poole, Dorset, as a restricted fund for use only at Wells where there is a rubber inflatable inshore boat and an all-weather Mersey-class vessel. The station was founded in 1869 and has about 20 crew members.

Mr Cracknell said no significant projects were in hand for which the money might be used, although some could be spent on groynes to protect the lifeboat station, maintaining the local service and relieving the central funds on which Wells relies.



Margaret Gill, whose estate totalled £2.7 million, as a nurse in 1931

Mary uses swear words in BBC Nativity drama

BY RUTH GLEDHILL, RELIGION CORRESPONDENT

HALF a million BBC Radio 1 listeners who tune in on Christmas Eve will hear a new version of the Nativity. The Gospel according to the pop station will feature "Joey" for Joseph and portrays Mary as a moody character who calls Joseph a "bastard".

The play, in five three-minute episodes, has been written in the American strip-cartoon style of Judge Dredd and nicknamed "Judge Jesus" by those working on it.

Mary blurts out "Oh my God!" when confronted by the Angel Gabriel, who tells the shepherds, dreaming of a bloody revolution at the time, "Don't panic, guys. Check it out, okay?"

One shepherd tries to explain the angel as a hallucination or three sheep standing on top of each other. "Bollocks it is," says another.

When Mary tells Joseph she is going to have God's baby, he breaks off the engagement and accuses her of being "blasphemous, offensive and downright loopy."

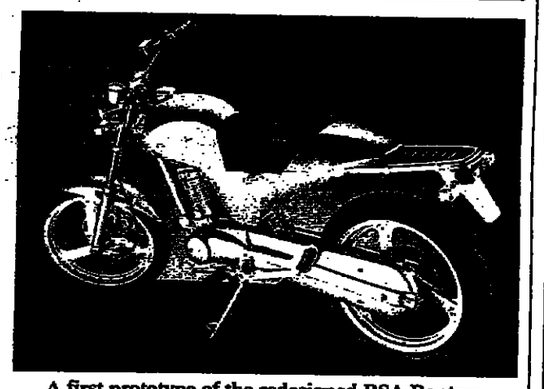
He says: "I'll be a laughing stock. I'm a descendant of King David, for God's sake."

She says he is a "crap" carpenter who cannot make a decent birdbath. "Mary mother of God!" she says, adding: "Oh no — that's me."

The play is due to be broadcast during a three-hour edition of *The Big Holy One*, Radio 1's religious series which was launched three years ago and has won two Sony awards.

The Ven George Austin, Archdeacon of York, said: "I hope the BBC will treat Christians with the same sensitivity with which they treat Muslims, Hindus and Jews. It is always good to make the Christmas story more accessible, but it must be done without offence."

A BBC spokeswoman said: "Our only aim is to bring the Christmas story to as wide an audience as possible."



A first prototype of the redesigned BSA Bantam

Bantam is reborn to send riders wild

BY ROBIN YOUNG

A CLASSIC from the heyday of British motorcycling is to return to the road after an absence of more than 20 years. The BSA Bantam, the "rocket machine" of the 1950s and 60s, has been restyled and its designers hope it will quickly reclaim its position as the nation's most popular utility bike.

The new version was unveiled last night on Channel 4's *Designing Dream Machines*. Originally designed in Germany, the Bantam came to Britain as part of Germany's Second World War reparations. Now the process is reversed: after a recent agreement between BSA and the German manufacturer MuZ, the bike will be built in Germany but the design and engineering will be British.

The British product design consultancy Seymour Powell was asked to make the resurrected Bantam a bike for the 1990s that would not alienate the bikers who rode, or longed for, a Bantam in the old days. "The Bantam is traditionally a very simple, lightweight motorcycle perfect for short-range commuting," said Richard Seymour of the consultancy, which also designed the cordless kettle, the cabin for British Rail's abortive InterCity 250 locomotive, and the MZ Skorpion motorcycle which won this year's BBC Design Award.

The heart of the new Bantam design is a four-stroke engine so strong that it replaces part of the chassis. As with the original Bantam, luggage space comes as standard, but in the new version a novel rack system under the passenger seat creates more room. An inbuilt locking system stored inside the luggage rack secures the bike to immoveable objects.

The MKI design, which is at prototype stage, satisfied members of the BSA Bantam Owners' Club in tests at Brands Hatch that it had recaptured the feel of the original, which went out of production in the early 1970s. The new version will cost about £2,000 and production is expected to begin in 1997.

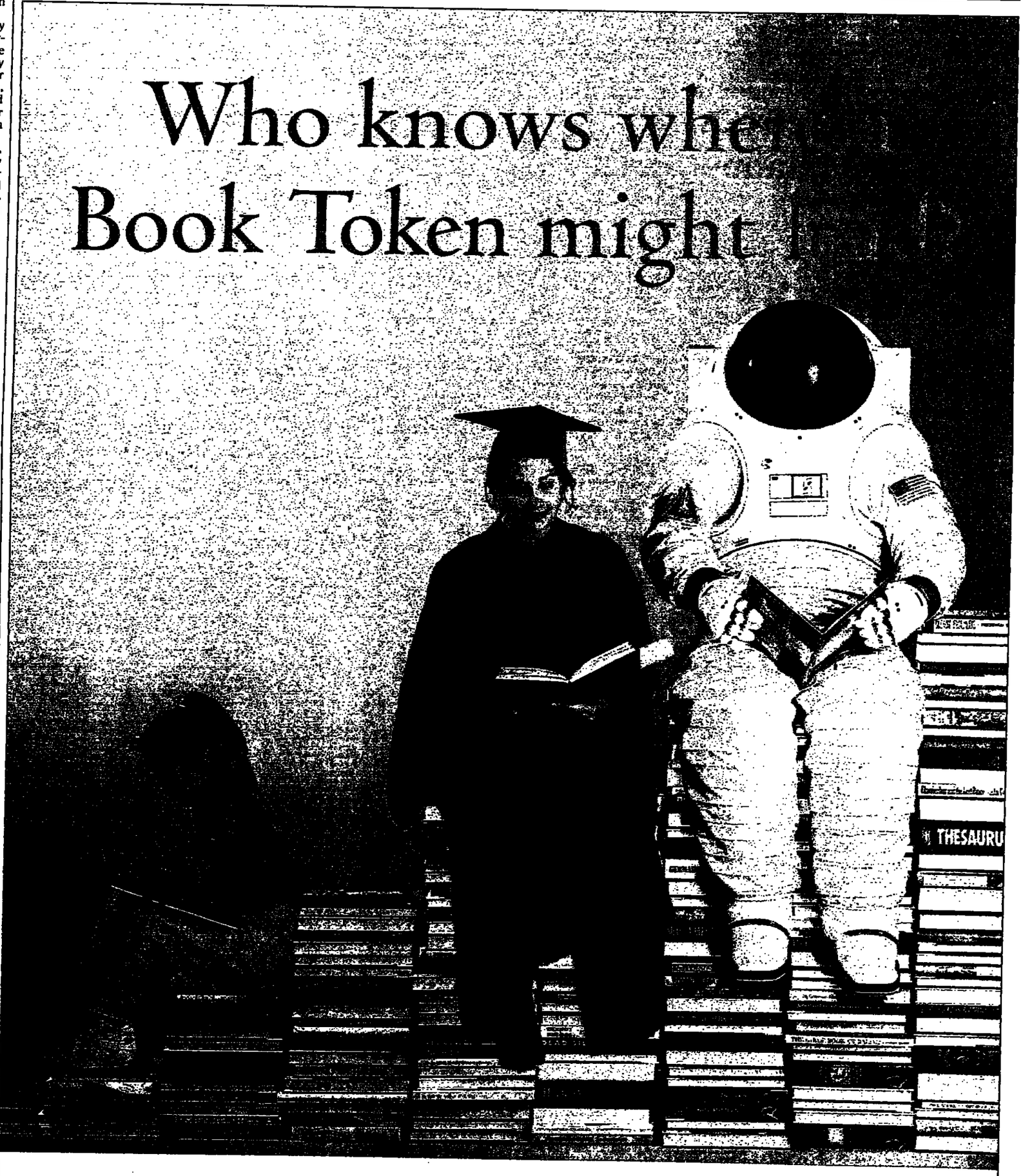
Nobel laureate urges scientists to speak out

JOSEPH ROTBLAT, the Nobel Peace prizewinner, yesterday urged fellow scientists to refuse to help to develop weapons of mass destruction and to "blow the whistle" on any projects that posed a danger to mankind.

In his lecture at the awards ceremony in Oslo's City Hall, Professor Rotblat appealed to nuclear powers to dismantle all atomic weapons within ten years. Professor Rotblat, 87, who shared the $1 million award with his anti-war Pugwash group, also said: "I appeal to my fellow scientists to remember their responsibility to humanity." Professor Rotblat said governments or industries sometimes concealed the true nature of scientific research to the public and that it was a scientist's duty to expose such malfeasance. "Whistle-blowing should become part of the scientist's ethos," he said. "This may bring reprisals, a price to be paid for one's convictions."

Originally Polish, but a British citizen since 1946, Professor Rotblat is the last survivor of the scientists who signed the Bertrand Russell-Albert Einstein manifesto against the H-bomb in the mid-1950s.

Who knows wh
Book Token might



Give a young person a Book Token and you're launching them on a journey of discovery that could take them literally anywhere.

Because what you're really giving them is one of the most exciting and important gifts they'll ever receive: the gift of *reading*.

And by giving them a Book Token you're giving them the fun and freedom to choose their own direction.

In fact, you're giving them a gift that's just as entertaining as any computer game or video.

Because reading is the one gift that truly exercises their imagination.

And with over a million books currently in print and virtually every bookshop in the country selling and exchanging tokens (over 3000 at the last count!) that's not a bad choice.

So light the blue touchpaper - by giving a Book Token.

Book Tokens can be exchanged for any books, books on tape, or books on CD.

Book Tokens
THE GIFT OF READING

Major anxious over backbench exodus

Howell steps down as Conservative quit list reaches 50

BY ALICE THOMSON AND JAMES LANDALE



Howell: an ex-minister who pioneered reforms

DAVID HOWELL yesterday became the fiftieth Tory MP to announce he will not be a party candidate at the next general election.

John Major is becoming increasingly anxious that an unprecedented number have said they will retire so long in advance. Almost a sixth of the parliamentary party are standing down, and few give age as a reason. Only 18 Labour MPs and three Liberal Democrats have said they will quit.

Many Tory MPs privately cite the Nolan inquiry into standards in public life for their disillusionment. They believe they have little further chance of promotion and that their outside interests are now too limited.

Many have said they will be relieved at leaving a party uncertain of its future. They have been exhausted by scandal-prone parliamentary sessions and a spate of disastrous by-election results. The idea of fighting a difficult election does not appeal and there are many who remember life in Opposition and do not want to repeat it.

The total of 50 includes Alan Howarth, who defected to the Labour Party ten weeks ago. Many, like 59-year-old Mr Howell, are prominent backbenchers. He is one of the most trusted elder MPs, but yesterday he was not giving his reasons for retiring after 30 years. The Guildford MP and chairman of the prestigious Commons foreign affairs committee helped to pioneer ideas of privatisation and public sector reform in the 1960s, and led Margaret Thatcher's speech-writing team in the late 1970s. In her administration, he was Energy Secretary and Transport Secretary.

The attitude of many was summed up by John Ward, a loyal backbench workhorse for 15 years and formerly Mr Major's parliamentary private secretary. He said: "I have become sceptical about the nature of the House of Commons whose character has changed so much. There are too many professional politicians and research officers producing clones fashioned to the whims of the whips."

The battle for their seats is fierce, particularly among ministers and former ministers who face political oblivion because of boundary changes and still think their careers have a chance.

Eight senior members of the Government whose seats either disappeared or became dangerously marginal, have found new constituencies. Two former ministers, John Maples and Francis Maude, who lost their seats in the 1992 election, have also been selected.

Initially local Tory selection committees avoided "retread MPs and ministers" but with the next election looking increasingly tough, they now want mature candidates with experience.

Sir John Wheeler, the junior Northern Ireland minister whose Westminster North seat disappears, and Norman Lamont, the former Chancellor, have not yet found places but Mr Howell's Guildford constituency will provide a good opportunity.

Vacant seats selecting shortly include Buckingham, Arundel South Downs, Harrogate and Knaresborough, New Forest West and New Forest East, North West Surrey, Romsey, West Suffolk and North Wiltshire.

Aitken faces fresh Iran arms claims

BY JONATHAN PRYNN

JONATHAN AITKEN, the former Treasury Chief Secretary, faces fresh allegations tonight that the company he helped to run was involved in selling arms to Iran and Iraq in breach of government export rules.

The claims are made in a *World in Action* television interview with William McNaught, former managing director of BMARC, the arms manufacturer for which Mr Aitken was a non-executive director from 1988 to 1990.

The Granada Television programme's allegations are said to involve new evidence not related to its previous investigations of BMARC's role in arms sales to Iran during the 10-year Iran-Iraq war. Mr McNaught, who has not spoken publicly before, is also to appear before the Commons Trade and Industry select committee on Wednesday with other BMARC employees as part of its investigation of the "arms to Iran" allegations.

Mr Aitken resigned from the Cabinet in July to fight allegations in the courts. He has consistently denied any knowledge of a £15 million deal at the centre of the claims, despite his close involvement with the company at the time. It involved the sale of naval guns and ammunition to Singapore, which are believed to have reached in Iran.



MICHAEL POWELL

Dr Kathy Pritchard-Jones, working to find a 100 per cent effective cure for children suffering from cancer

A kinder cure for child cancers

BY JOHN YOUNG

THE huge progress made in treating cancer in children was illustrated last Friday by the case of Harriet Selka, a three-year-old sufferer who had half an ovary removed and frozen in the hope that it could enable her to have children when she grew up.

Her story also highlighted that much of the present treatment, although successful, has unfortunate side-effects; in the case of radiotherapy and bone marrow transplants, the likelihood of sterility.

Among those searching for improved treatments is Dr Kathy Pritchard-Jones, 37, senior lecturer in paediatric oncology at the Institute of Cancer Research and honorary consultant at the adjoining Royal Marsden Hospital in southwest London. The three main treatments for cancer are chemotherapy, radiotherapy and surgery.

Among growing children the last two can cause deformities, so the preferred option is to shrink the tumour with chemotherapy before the patient undergoes surgery.

Bone marrow transplants are also used to try to cure leukaemia and solid tumours. But they are not generally employed until other treatments have failed, and then only when absolutely necessary, because they almost invariably cause sterility.

Dr Pritchard-Jones is also researching rhabdomyosarcoma, a muscle tumour in many forms that afflicts children.

She is seeking to determine molecular changes that may indicate whether the disease is likely to be difficult or easy to treat.

"I am interested in looking at how we can reduce the amount of drugs we need to use," she says. Eighty five per cent of children with rhabdomyosarcoma are treated with drugs which make them sterile. "If we could identify which patients don't need this drug, we could save them a lot of anguish later on."

During Dr Pritchard-Jones's six years at Oxford University she made a particular study of the Wilms' tumour gene which can cause kidney cancer in children. The same gene is also evident in blood disorders, and she is looking for its occurrence in cases of leukaemia. "We know it is involved in the early dissemination of white blood cells, and when it occurs in leukaemia it indicates that it is likely to prove difficult to treat."

A clinical study is trying to find a drug that will block the resistance of diseased cells to treatment by toxic drugs. The human body's immune system produces proteins that detoxify invasive elements, so a further drug is needed to counter their action.

Another of her projects is looking at the possibility of using a vaccine to boost the immune system in cases of neuroblastoma (cancer of the nervous system). Much of the research involves working with diseased cells. When an excised tumour is taken to a laboratory to be examined in test tubes, the cells frequently die in the artificial conditions, and it becomes difficult, if not impossible, to carry out a detailed survey of the chromosomes.

A new technique uses merely the imprint of the tumour on a pane of glass which leaves just a few cells to be examined and allows specific chromosome changes to be examined. Some groups of tumour have been found to respond very well to treatment, including rhabdomyosarcoma, Wilms' and neuroblastoma.

About three quarters of all children who develop lymphoblastic leukaemia, the most common cancer in children, recover. But researchers can identify molecular structures that give a grimmer prognosis.

"Quite often we know from the outset which children are likely to be curable and which will do badly," Dr Pritchard-Jones says. "Our research is aimed at finding a 100 per cent cure."

THE TIMES Christmas Appeal in aid of the Royal Marsden Hospital CHILDREN'S CANCER UNIT

By last Friday, 10 days after its launch, the appeal had raised more than £33,000. "We are absolutely amazed at how well it is doing," the hospital said. "Times readers really are doing us proud."



Harriet Selka: hope for the future

Yes, I want to help

I enclose a cheque / postal order (payable to the Royal Marsden Children's Cancer Unit) for £ .....

Or, please debit my Visa / Mastercard / Amex / Diners Club card

Expiry date ..... / ..... Today's date ..... / ..... / .....

Signature .....

NAME .....

ADDRESS .....

..... POSTCODE .....

DAYTIME PHONE No .....

To make an instant credit card donation, please telephone 0171-376 5173, or send this coupon with your donation to:

The Royal Marsden Children's Cancer Unit Appeal, Downs Road, Sutton, Surrey SM2 5PT. Reg. Charity No. 274034

Please note: a donation of £250 or more is worth a third as much again through Gift Aid as we can claim back the tax.

☐ Tick this box if you would like a receipt

THE TIMES Christmas Appeal CHILDREN'S CANCER UNIT in aid of the Royal Marsden Hospital

NEWS IN BRIEF

Sex case boys back at girl's school

Two boys are to be allowed back to lessons today at the school where they are alleged to have indecently assaulted a 13-year-old girl.

The boys, both also 13, are in the same year as the girl but attend different classes. They are due to face court over the alleged assault in the playground of a Cardiff school, and are on bail with a strict condition that they must not approach the girl. Yesterday, her mother said: "It's outrageous. This will be so upsetting for my daughter."

Police have also criticised the decision, and Gwilym Jones, a Welsh Office minister, said: "I am asking the governors to reconsider." A spokesman for the governors said: "We wanted to get the boys back to continue their education properly. It was a tricky matter but we considered it carefully."

£9,000 payout for operation agony

A woman who could feel the surgeon's scalpel because she was not given enough anaesthetic during a Caesarian birth has been awarded £9,000 compensation. Anna Maguire, of Heacham, Norfolk, was conscious although she could not move during the birth of her son at Queen Elizabeth Hospital, King's Lynn, Norfolk, in 1991. The North West Anglia Health Commission agreed to pay compensation without admitting liability.

Vestey on mend

The wife of Lord Vestey was recovering yesterday after emergency surgery to remove a blood clot from her brain. Lady Vestey, 46, who suffered a stroke last week, is in a stable condition at the Frenchay Hospital, Bristol.

Ospreys return

The osprey is to be reintroduced to breed in England for the first time in more than 100 years. Four breeding pairs will be taken from Scotland, where there are fewer than 100 such pairs, to Rutland Water, Leicestershire.

Body found

A body thought to be that of Audrey O'Neill, 55, has been found near Abidjan, capital of the Ivory Coast, nine months after she vanished on a relief mission. The former hospital secretary sold her Devon home to finance the trip.

Landmark falls

A 30-ton granite rock on Hound Tor, Dartmoor, which Sir Arthur Conan Doyle said inspired his story *Hound of the Baskervilles*, has been toppled and smashed by a gang of youths thought to be trying to start a landslide.

Lottery winners

Three tickets won £2.7 million each in the National Lottery draw; 36 matched five numbers plus the bonus number to win £69,350; 1,310 matched five for £1,191 each, and 77,667 matched four and won £44.

Winning numbers, page 20

Worship silenced

A woman who held late-night worship sessions at home was given a conditional discharge for ignoring noise abatement orders. Bristol magistrates were told that neighbours complained about chanting led by Joan Thomas, of Eastville.

Mascot Electronic announces Mascot Electronic announces

Important safety notice

FAULTY CHARGERS DISTRIBUTED WITH MOBILE PHONES

Potentially faulty chargers have been delivered this autumn to sales channels and users with some mobile telephones manufactured by Nokia. The chargers have been manufactured by Mascot Electronic in Norway, who will replace these products at no cost to users.

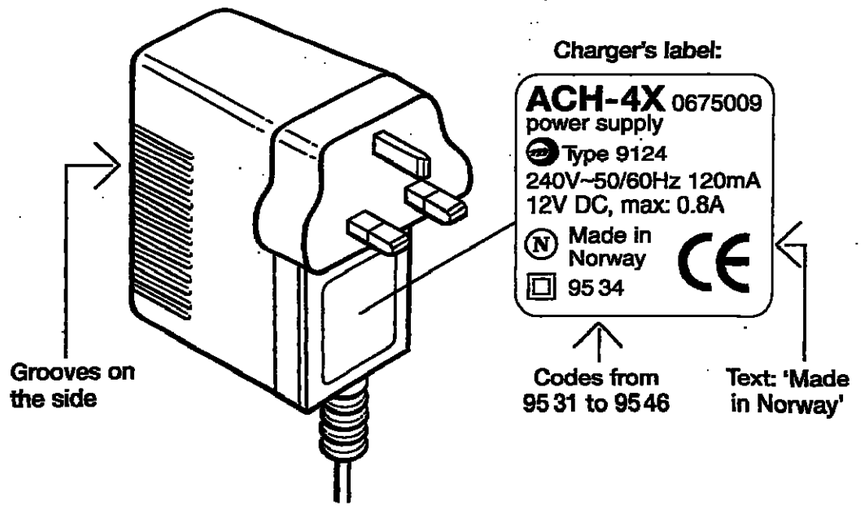
The potentially faulty charger may cease to operate in normal use, its plastic cover may crack, and the wall socket pins may become loose. Removing the loose pins from the socket may pose an electrical shock hazard. If it looks at all damaged, switch it off at the mains.

A potentially faulty charger can be identified easily:

- In the UK the chargers have been delivered with Nokia branded phones as part of the basic sales package or separately as accessories. Potential faults only concern the chargers for these phones.
- Only one charger type may be faulty: it has grooves on the side and has the text 'Made in Norway' on the charger's label. Potentially faulty units of the ACH-4X chargers carry a label code from 95 31 to 95 46 as shown below.

Note: Non UK chargers purchased abroad by UK phone users may also be affected (ACH-4E 2 pin plug).

The ACH-4X Charger



In case you are in possession of this charger type, we kindly ask you to call the Mascot customer service line **0800 320520** (from Friday 8th December, 8am) for information and replacement service. Do not use or distribute these chargers.

mascot electronic as *Customer service line 0800 320520* *(from Friday 8th December, 8am)*

Week-long way to start a family

MEDICAL BRIEFING

In the Bible we learn from Ecclesiastes that to everything there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven. Never is this more important than when trying to conceive a baby, but despite this, doctors' advice about the best time to have sexual intercourse when a woman wants to become pregnant has, it seems, been based more on traditional teaching than tested evidence. It may have been less precise than it should have been, and sometimes even wrong.

Standard medical advice has been that intercourse on the day of ovulation and the couple of days on either side is most likely to result in fertilisation of the ovum.

It was usually assumed that a woman was likely to be fertile for just over a week; the old belief that she was only fertile for a couple of days a month was rejected by most doctors several years ago. Research in the last decade has also confirmed what every venereologist who has peered down a microscope had already noted: that sperms remain alive and active in the vagina for several days, much longer than used to be taught.

Couples having trouble with conception were often advised not to have sex too often as repeated ejaculation reduced the quality of the man's semen and resulted in a specimen with a lower sperm count and too many immature sperm.

A team led by Dr Allen Wilcox, from the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences in North Carolina, has investigated conception in 221 apparently healthy women and related it to the time of the month when they had sexual intercourse. The research has been published in *The New England Journal of Medicine*, a highly reputable American medical magazine. It is possible that their conclusions would not apply to people in whom there are specific problems of infertility. It seems, however, that if both partners are fit and of apparently normal fertility, the quickest way to conceive is to have intercourse every day of the week up to and including the expected day of ovulation. This pattern of intercourse produced a fertilisation rate of 37 per cent per cycle.

Sex every other day up to the time of ovulation, and for a couple of days afterwards, which I have been recommending to would-be parents for more than 35 years, was not quite so successful and resulted in conception in 33 per cent of women. This is particularly interesting as it seems to refute Australian research, published in the *British Medical Journal* some years ago, which suggested that daily ejaculation was likely to produce such low sperm counts that conception would be unlikely. The American research shows that it does not seem to affect the fertility of the majority of healthy men.

The American doctors have also dismissed an old wives' tale widely believed by patients, if not by their doctors. There is a myth that the timing of sexual intercourse can affect the gender of the foetus. It was believed that boys were more likely to be conceived if intercourse took place on the day of ovulation, when the woman might be expected to be at her most fertile. This is not so according to the statistics obtained from Dr Wilcox's patients, and he found no link between the day of intercourse and the baby's gender.

DR THOMAS STUTTAFORD

People in developing countries depend on animals. SPANA helps them.

Society for the Protection of Animals Abroad, 15 Buckingham Gate, London SW1 6LS. Reg Charity 209015. SPANA

هكذا من الأصل

Scientist claims his BSE test is being blocked

BY MICHAEL HORNSBY
AGRICULTURE CORRESPONDENT

A SCIENTIST who claims to have developed a test for "mad cow" disease in live cattle has accused the Government of impeding his research.

Dr Harash Narang, a microbiologist and clinical virologist, alleged that such a test would be unwelcome to the Ministry of Agriculture because it would show that a large number of apparently healthy cattle are incubating bovine spongiform encephalopathy. "It seems the ministry would rather not know how many animals are infected because they would then have to destroy them and pay compensation to farmers," he said.

Cattle which develop full-blown symptoms of BSE are destroyed. But for every one of these, there are estimated to be two others which are carrying the infection without showing any visible signs. At present there is no way of identifying such animals.

Last month Dr Narang claimed to have identified Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease — the human counterpart of BSE — in a woman dying in Sunderland Hospital, Tyne and Wear, by examining her urine under an electron microscope. He wants to try his urine test on cattle, but claims that the Ministry of Agriculture will not give him permission to do so.

There have been two break-ins at Dr Narang's flat in Newcastle in the past two months. On each occasion, he says, the thieves took research notes and tapes of interviews he had conducted with families of CJD victims.

Dr Narang also says the tyres of his car have been slashed on several occasions and the brakes tampered with. He suspects that angry farmers might have been behind the attacks.

The ministry described his claims yesterday as "rubbish". A spokesman said: "We would be delighted if someone came up with a diagnostic test. We have invited Dr Narang to produce his evidence but he has not done so."

Amateur astronomer thought new planet was only a scratch on his lens

Garden telescope reveals a small secret of universe

BY NICK NUTTALL
TECHNOLOGY CORRESPONDENT

A PLANET up to 400 million miles away has been discovered by an amateur astronomer from his garden shed in Berkshire.

George Sallit, 43, found the object by chance with his 12in telescope. It measures only about 20 miles across and at first he thought it might a scratch on his lens.

The planet, near the constellation of Aries, is in an orbit which takes it between Mars and Jupiter. It is one of several thousand minor planets, or asteroids, in the solar system.

Mr Sallit, of Bradfield, said yesterday: "I have to admit it was a complete accident. I was just testing a new electronic camera on my telescope when I spotted something moving that should not have been there.

"It was just a tiny, tiny speck on the image from the camera, but because it was slightly blurred I could tell it was moving.

"I took a picture and when I looked closer I realised it was a planet moving slowly across the frame and when I checked the charts it wasn't on any of them."

The planet, discovered at about midnight on September 27, has been provisionally named Sallit One by the official international body which chronicles such discoveries. It has been verified by



experts at Harvard University and the Smithsonian Institute. The university is the headquarters of the International Astronomical Union for Astronomy.

"I have just received their letter back saying yes, we can confirm a new minor planet," said Mr Sallit, a physicist at the Atomic Weapons Establishment at Aldermaston, Berkshire.

Concerned that he may have photographed only a scratch on his telescope's lens, friends of Mr Sallit put him in contact with Guy Hurst, editor of *The Astronomer* magazine.

Mr Hurst checked his database and confirmed that he had no record of other objects in that area of the night sky. He suggested that Mr Sallit send details and photographs of the object to the astronomy authorities in the United States.

Mr Hurst said yesterday: "We get about 100 claims like this every year from all over the world to investigate new minor planets, comets and the like. Only about three or four prove to be genuine. This is very exciting for us amateurs. It is so difficult to find anything that is new because so many people are looking."

Mr Sallit is only the third Briton to discover such an object this century. "One was discovered by a Briton in 1908 and a chap called Brian Manning discovered three or four about six years ago on the same night," he said.

Mr Sallit said he now donned skiwear and braved the cold of his shed each night in the hope of catching another glimpse of his planet. "I've been stargazing since I was eleven years old but I never thought anything like this would happen to me. I'm just like a lot of other amateur astronomers who come home from work, attach one eye to the end of a telescope and bumble around the heavens for a while. This is what we all dream of doing, discovering a new planet."

Mr Sallit said credit should also be given to his wife Jennifer, 40, who helps him stave off the cold with regular cups of tea. "I'm very lucky that Jennifer is quite interested in what I do. When I told her I'd found a new planet, she said: 'That's nice dear.' "

Mr Sallit's 12-inch computer-controlled telescope cost £4,500. He has software and equipment designed for use on the American Hubble telescope — all stored in the garden shed. "I go out into the shed, open up the roof and the telescope pokes out through the top. There are about five others in this country with the same kind of equipment," he said.

"The discovery is such a fluke because I had only just bought the electronic camera and was simply playing about with it to see how it works."

The new planet has spawned worldwide interest, with news of it spreading among the astronomy buffs who use the Internet to collect and pass on information.

"Amateurs get a bit of a raw deal because everyone assumes we are all anoraks. But it has got to the stage now where if you can afford it, you can get the same equipment used by the professionals and because of that, some of them are enlisting our help," Mr Sallit said.

MIKE WALKER



George Sallit in the shed: "When I told my wife, she said: 'That's nice, dear' "

Twickenham prepares for record Varsity revelries

BY JOHN GOODBODY
SPORTS NEWS CORRESPONDENT

THE Varsity match at Twickenham tomorrow will attract at least 70,000 spectators, a record for any club rugby union match in the world. While some English first division games have failed to draw 1,000 paying spectators this season, the newly-rebuilt Twickenham will be almost full to capacity for what one official calls "the City's Christmas party". Thousands of businessmen, stockbrokers and stock exchange dealers will take the day off work to enjoy champagne receptions and lavish lunches before watching the 114th annual Oxford v. Cambridge match. Bowring, the sponsor, is so happy with the success of the fixture that it has increased its financial support from £100,000 this year to £175,000 in 1996.

Twickenham has already sold more than 70,000 tickets and expects to get close to the capacity 75,000, although no seats are being sold tomorrow. Corporate hospitality, including a match ticket, has been snapped up for up to £185 a head.

The caterers, Payne and Gunters, will be serving champagne, wine, smoked haddock mousse, beef and beamish pie, pear and almond tart and cheese before the game, and then tea afterwards, to 5,700 customers. Alan Payne, the managing director, said: "The ordinary public, who have not been to either of the universities, do not mind who wins but do like to be at an event.

"The Varsity match is idiosyncratic but, in England, we do turn certain things into special occasions. Yet, when Payne and Gunter started at Twickenham in 1981, the interest was so low that corporate hospitality for the Varsity Match was given away free with packages for internationals.

In the 1940s and 1950s, there had been large attendances, including a record 59,400 in 1949, but they declined to a low of 20,000 in 1974, before climbing again, reaching 62,000 in 1993.

Hugo MacNeill, the former Ireland and Oxford University fullback, says: "The Varsity match occupies a special place in people's minds. There is no other sporting occasion like it."

Sport, page 29

All change to train timetable for the fifth time

BY JONATHAN PRYNN
TRANSPORT CORRESPONDENT

THE gremlins that bedevilled the Railtrack national train timetable have struck again: the company has been forced to print 500 corrections to its Christmas and New Year timetable supplement.

The supplement, which covers December 20 to January 4, is produced for staff in railway ticket and information offices to update them on schedule changes over the festive season. This year's 157-page version was delivered to British Rail staff in late November but within days a 20-page list of corrections was issued, buried in the weekly engineering works circular.

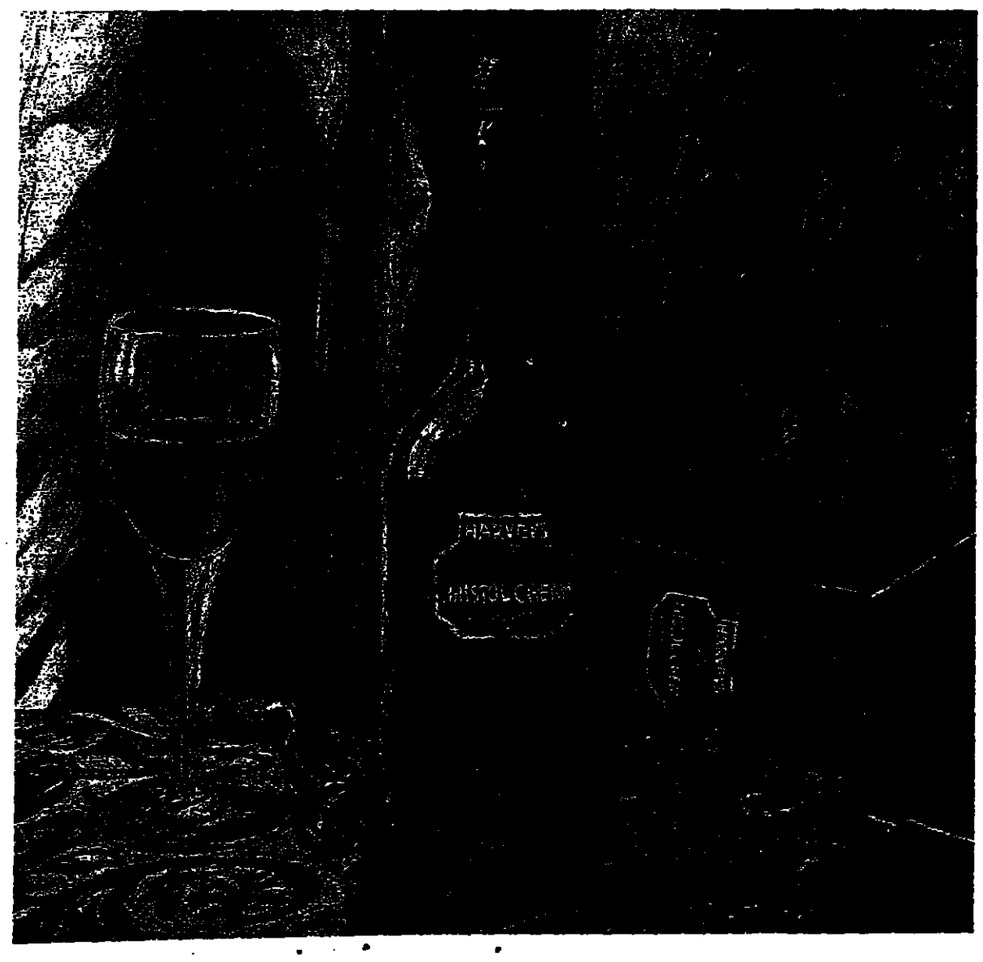
The latest changes mean an average of 30 corrections a day for a timetable that has been amended five times since it was issued in September. The latest alterations mean BR staff have to consult four documents to be certain they are giving out accurate information.

"The poor ticket office staff are going to need Santa's sack to carry all the documents around this Christmas," said a spokesman for the Central Rail Users Consultative Committee, the main passenger watchdog.

Many of the corrections refer to services that Railtrack had forgotten are not running on New Year's Day. The holiday supplement fails to mention, for example, that there will be no services between Middlesbrough and Whitby, between Newcastle and Sunderland and Carlisle, and no trains to the Gateshead MetroCentre, even though it will be open to bargain hunters.

Railtrack said a list of alterations was always issued to staff at this time of year as more information about Christmas and New Year timetables became available. "Rather than bring out late changes in dribs and drabs we concentrate them in one of the engineering circulars," a spokesman said. "This is actually one of the thinnest late-change circulars for Christmas works that has been issued."

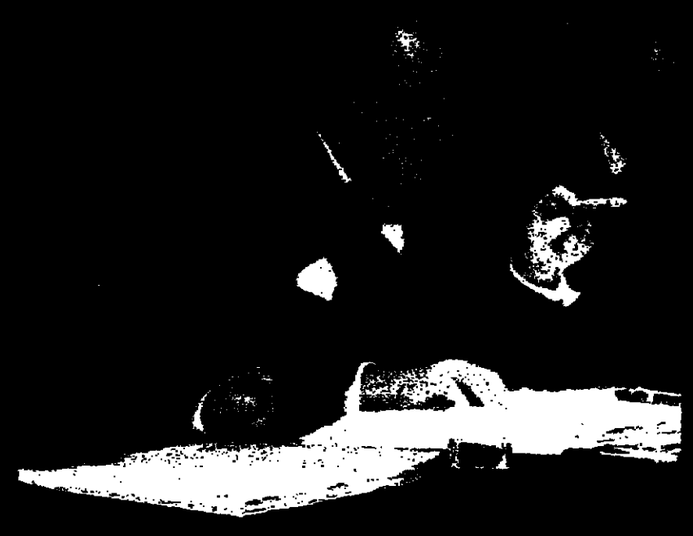
Sherry with a



most distinctive character

HARVEYS BRISTOL CREAM, BOTTLE AND GIFT BOX IN BRISTOL BLUE,
PASTEL BY JUDITH ROTHCHILD.
BORN IN BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS, JUDITH ROTHCHILD NOW
LIVES IN LANGUEDOC, FRANCE. SHE HAS EXHIBITED IN EUROPE AND AMERICA.
AS FOR HARVEYS BRISTOL CREAM,
IT ALWAYS ENABLES YOU TO MAKE A DISTINCTIVE IMPRESSION YOURSELF,
PARTICULARLY WHEN PRESENTED IN ITS BRISTOL BLUE BOX.
THE BEST SHERRY IN THE WORLD.

Britain's best-kept war secret: revealed



Churchill and The Cabinet War Rooms

Monday 11 December at 5pm - The History Channel
only available on satellite and cable tv

SKY

THE HISTORY CHANNEL

Unions wary of strikers' anger if they compromise

FROM ADAM SAGE IN PARIS

A DESIRE to end the two-week strike that has paralysed France was evident among ministers and union leaders at the weekend but a solution remained elusive, with both sides pushed apart by forces they only partly control.

Union leaders have been caught out by the strength of the protest movement and are wary of signing an agreement that would cut them off from their followers. Meanwhile, Alain Juppé, the Prime Minister, knows that Gaullist deputies are increasingly willing to contemplate the possibility of his resignation: if he is seen to cave in, calls for his departure will grow.

Nonetheless, the first tentative steps towards an accord were made on Saturday when Jacques Barrot, the Minister for Social Affairs, met union leaders to discuss the welfare reform programme that has given rise to the conflict.

The meetings were short and tense, but will be followed by more discussions this week. An important hurdle was overcome when Marc Blondel, leader of Force Ouvrière, one of the country's three big unions, agreed to withdraw a demand that M Juppé's reforms be withdrawn before talks got under way.

At the same time, railway unions met the mediator, Jean Mattéoli, to discuss plans to reduce the large debts hanging over the SNCF.

Although talks will resume this week, there was no disguising the gulf that separated the two sides, which could not even agree on whether to call the talks "dialogue", as the Government prefers, or "negotiation", which the unions want.



Anti-strike demonstrators take to the streets of Paris yesterday demanding a minimum public transport service

Meanwhile, France is continuing to slide into footsore chaos. A survey of small businesses in and around Paris revealed that economic activity has been halved since the end of last month. This week it could get worse. Unions have called for a day of action tomorrow, when they hope to surpass last week's total of 1.5 million people on the streets throughout France.

☐ **Bordeaux:** The state electricity company, EDF, said yesterday an attempt had been made to sabotage a nuclear power station at Blaye by pouring salt into a water cooling pipe. The incident occurred during a strike in protest at EU plans to open the sector to competition. (*Reuter*)

Britons journey into the unknown

BY ADAM SAGE

LILLE is an attractive, dynamic city — which was just as well for the few brave British souls trying to get to and from Paris by rail yesterday.

With all Eurostar trains between the British and French capitals cancelled over the weekend, Lille was an obligatory staging post on an uncertain journey.

For those determined enough to try the London-Paris link, it was a question of taking one of two trains bound for Brussels, getting off in the northern French city and making a difficult choice.

There were some private coach companies offering a trip to the capital — a journey which usually lasts three hours but which takes far longer in these gridlocked, strike-ridden times. Or there was the possibility of spending the night in Lille, looking around its shopping centre — the biggest in Europe — and hoping that the railway line reopens.

This option was, however, uncertain. Yesterday the French railway network had little idea whether the two-week-old strike would continue to paralyse its international liaisons. For those trying to leave the French capital, the situation was even more complicated. British Airways said that, with its flights delayed and postponed because of the weather, there were "hundreds of people" at Paris airports anxious to know how long they would have to stay there. "It's chaotic," said a BA employee.

Only drivers could aspire to a certain equanimity. Le Shuttle to and from Calais is now working normally and the ferries have been untouched. But French dockers are threatening to change that by joining the protests this week.



Eurostar: trips to Paris cancelled over weekend

THE JAGUAR XJ SERIES
COSTS LESS
THAN YOU THINK.



BUT IT'S
WORTH MORE THAN
YOU IMAGINE.

THE ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY JAGUAR XJ SERIES.

Whatever price a new Jaguar XJ6 may conjure in your mind, the reality is likely to be rather different.

An eminently sensible £30,100* is the list price of the car which The Sunday Times described as "Far and away the best saloon car in the world." Complete Car added that a Jaguar "...oozes style in a very tempting overall package."

The overall package is indeed the thing. What other car at this price brings together twin airbags, anti-lock brakes and an 8-speaker audio system with the walnut-trimmed, luxuriously upholstered interior of a British design classic? Consider also that every new Jaguar is covered by a comprehensive, three year/60,000 mile manufacturer's warranty, and six year anti-corrosion and three year paint and surface defect warranties.

The price even includes the comprehensive protection of the RAC's Incident Management throughout the UK and, in Europe, of Mondial European Emergency Assistance. Both, again, will give you peace of mind for a full three years.

Suddenly, the prospect of a brand new Jaguar doesn't seem quite so remote, does it?

For more information or to arrange a test drive, call **0800 70 80 60** or fax **0171 611 6968**. JAGUAR

DON'T DREAM IT. DRIVE IT.

*Price, correct at time of going to press, is for an XJ6 3.2 manual and excludes cost of delivery, number plates and a full tank of petrol (£450 excluding VAT).

426

Congressman quits to revive US black group

FROM IAN BRODIE IN WASHINGTON

A BLACK American politician has given up one of the safest seats in Congress to try to rescue America's largest and oldest civil rights group from bankruptcy and irrelevance.

The decision by Kweisi Mfume to head the National Association for the Advancement of Coloured People (NAACP) could put him on a collision course for dominance among blacks with Louis Farrakhan, whose Nation of Islam organised October's Million-Man March. Mr Mfume's move also confirms the end of Jesse Jackson's leadership among blacks.

President Clinton admitted that he was "flabbergasted" by Mr Mfume's departure from Congress. At 47, he seemed to be assured of an influential career on Capitol Hill where he had led the black caucus and was talked of as being the first black Speaker. He becomes the sixteenth House Democrat during this session to resign, a measure of their frustration in opposing the Republican majority's determination to cut benefits.

Mr Mfume has come far since his days as a school dropout and street tough in Baltimore where he fathered five children by four women by the age of 22. He was born Frizzell Gray but adopted his African name, which means "conquering son of kings", and turned his life around.

He went back to school, earned a degree, became a radio talk-show host and was elected to Baltimore City Council before winning his seat in Congress eight years ago. He has been re-elected three times with 80 per cent of the vote. He is articulate and acceptable to white liberals.

Mr Mfume said he was leaving Congress because he was convinced that he could better bring about economic, social and political change in the broader capacity that the NAACP represents. It will be a struggle. The organisation, founded 86 years ago, has half a million mostly middle-aged members and a stodgy image. Worse, it has been racked by scandal.

Benjamin Travis, the former director, was forced out last year after he paid $330,000 (£215,000) to a former aide to avoid charges of sexual harassment. Then the chairman was accused of fiddling his expenses by more than $100,000.

The NAACP is now $3.2 million in debt and has not taken a stand on any racial issues at a time when the O.J. Simpson verdict, the drive to repeal job quotas for minorities, and the Million-Man March have fuelled a national debate on race relations.

Mr Mfume agreed that the NAACP is a "flickering glimmer" of what it was, but promised that change would be swift. He said: "We must reclaim our rightful place as the voice of African Americans and others who believe in the premise that all people are, in fact, created equal."

That sounds like a direct challenge to Mr Farrakhan whose message has been criticised as anti-Semitic, divisive and confused. Mr Mfume has denied that there would be a clash between the two, saying that they would "co-exist".



Farrakhan: accused of anti-Semitic message

Budget row boosts Clinton's approval

BY IAN BRODIE

PRESIDENT CLINTON'S approval rating has jumped to 55 per cent, its highest for seven months, according to a new poll that coincides with his pledge to veto Republican budgets "again and again" until health care for the poor is protected from cuts.

Yesterday's poll reflected growing support for Mr Clinton's refusal to surrender to Republican pressure, despite a new deadline of next Friday for shutting down the federal Government if the two sides fail to agree a budget.

The survey by CNN and *Time* indicated that half of voting-age Americans have more confidence in the President than in the Republicans to deal with important national issues. Republicans won the confidence of only 35 per cent.

Mr Clinton's approval rating has hovered at or below 50 per cent since his record high of 60 per cent last April, after leading the mourning for victims of the Oklahoma City bombing. Mr Clinton also received a fillip from his trip to Europe; 51 per cent think he is doing a good job of handling foreign policy and 54 per cent credit him with providing strong leadership.

In his weekend radio address, Mr Clinton focused on proposed Republican cuts to the growth of Medicaid, the national health service for 37 million Americans who have no other medical coverage. He said the "blunt reality" was that up to four million children would be denied care under Republican plans that would cut costs and shift responsibility to the states.

An increasing number of Americans fear they could be stranded if the Republicans go too far in cutting medical, education and other government services. They have not been reassured by the recent gaffes of Newt Gingrich, the Speaker, who has become an embarrassment to his party.

Leading lawyers in bid to defend Chinese dissident

FROM JONATHAN MIRSKY IN HONG KONG

AN INTERNATIONAL team of lawyers, including two former US Attorney-Generals, is trying to get to Peking in time to participate in the defence of Wei Jingsheng, China's leading dissident, who goes on trial for his life on Wednesday.

Nicholas Katzenbach and Richard Thornburgh, who served Presidents Johnson and Bush, announced over the weekend that they have joined Lord Gareth Williams, former chairman of the English and Welsh Bars, Robert Badinter, a former French Justice Minister, Francis Seow, former Solicitor-General of Singapore, and other leading legal figures from Belgium and Canada.

It is unlikely, however, that Peking will grant visas to the lawyers for a trial that itself is likely to be held in secret.

Mr Wei has been behind bars for 16 years, except for a brief period beginning in December 1993, when he was released a few months early from a 15-year sentence when China was trying to secure the 2000 Olympics.

He was snatched from his car by police on April 1 last year, and held without charge and incommunicado for 20 months. On November 21 Mr Wei was charged with attempting to overthrow the Government, a sedition charge which carries a possible death penalty or at least ten years in prison.

His family has now been notified that his trial will begin on Wednesday. Zhang Sizhi, who unsuccessfully defended Wang Juntao and Chen Ziming against charges of being the principal "black hands" behind the Tiananmen demonstrations, is said to have been retained to defend Mr Wei.

Peking's decision to charge and try Mr Wei was taken in the knowledge that it would arouse international outrage: China currently feels invulnerable to pressure about human rights and considers Mr Wei very dangerous.

There is no sacred cow of the Chinese Communist Party he has not attacked, nor is any grandee spared his contempt. He is a focus for China's disparate dissidents — intellectuals, peasants and industrial workers — who regard him as an inspirational icon and visited him in Peking during his months of freedom.

As the son of a party official, Mr Wei is seen as a traitor to the party. In a poster on Peking's short-lived Democracy Wall in 1978, Mr Wei predicted that Deng Xiaoping, only recently released from his second internal exile at the hands of the Gang of Four and hailed as the saviour of post-Mao China, would degenerate into a dictator, that he held power illegally, "flattered Mao's ghost", and was "unable to comprehend the mister 'the people'".

Mr Wei blamed China's backwardness on "disasters caused by aristocratic rulers, by fascism under a Marxist-Leninist signboard".

He described how, when he was a Mao-worshipping Red Guard during the Cultural Revolution, he learnt that during a famine in central China brought about by Mao's economic policies "families exchanged children to eat ... Mao Tse-tung's policies had forced them to batter children to death with hoes so that they themselves might live".

At the trial in 1979 where he received 15 years, Mr Wei defended himself, noting that all China's modernisations "are doomed" without democracy, and insisted it was the right of every citizen "to criticise any unreasonable people or thing that he sees".

Even from prison he wrote to Mr Deng, warning him that China's treatment of Tibet was a tragedy and "the director of this tragedy is none other than you, Mr Deng". Eventually, said Mr Wei, "Tibet will no longer be a part of China ... and you will be laughed at and condemned by history".

Soon after his release, Mr Wei wrote to President Clinton of the President's "misguided shift" in deciding to seek "constructive engagement" with China.

Mr Clinton, he claimed, was pandering to America's capitalists — "offer them a chance to make money and anything goes". "Hostage transactions," wrote Mr Wei, "used the freedom of the prisoner as a bargaining chip in the economic poker game".



Wei Jingsheng: goes on trial for his life

Helmuth Dallgas's frozen protective mask shows how bad conditions were as he shovelled snow outside his home in Milwaukee. Throughout the northern United States, icy temperatures — in Chicago, as low as -20C (-5F) — and high winds led the authorities to issue severe weather warnings

Activist is held for criticising PLO rulers

FROM ROSS DUNN IN JERUSALEM

HOPES for democracy and human rights in the Palestinian self-rule areas have been battered again by the arrest of a key human rights activist in the Gaza Strip.

A little more than a month before the first Palestinian elections, the Palestinian Authority has shown it has little tolerance for those who speak out against the administration of Yassir Arafat, the Palestine Liberation Organisation chairman.

Dr Eyad Sarraj, of the Palestinian Independent Commission for Citizens' Rights, was detained last week in Gaza City for ten hours. He said he had sent more than 400 messages to Khaled al-Kidreh, the Attorney-General, about various human rights abuses and "received no response".

He said: "I was arrested because I publicly declared the authority to have a poor record on human rights." Before he was released, he was told to sign a form agreeing not to make similar statements in future.

Dr Sarraj refused, but was freed anyway. He said PLO leaders "belong to a culture in which human rights and democracy have no force. Their excuse is that we are democratic but we are not Sweden."

Amnesty International in London and the Israeli rights group B'Tselem condemned his detention. Earlier this year, Raji Sourani, head of the Gaza Centre for Human Rights and Law, was dismissed from his post after speaking out against the use of community courts to try political dissidents in the Palestinian self-rule areas.

Yesterday, the authority took control of its second West Bank town, Tulkarm. Thousands cheered and waved flags to celebrate the pullout of Israeli troops. The peace of the event was broken when an Israeli man and his daughter were shot and injured near a Jewish settlement close to Bethlehem in the occupied West Bank. It happened before the arrival of Palestinian police in Tulkarm.

Fire rages on Table Mountain

Johannesburg: Firefighters were yesterday tackling a huge blaze on the slopes of Table Mountain as 50mph winds fanned the flames (Ray Kennedy writes). The spectacular mountain, which overlooks Cape Town, attracts thousands of tourists from around the world each year.

The fire, buffeted by a southeasterly wind that sometimes can last for days, has left swaths of the mountain's slopes and its adjoining peaks of Signal Hill and Lion's Head charred, just as British tourists and local holidaymakers are beginning to arrive at the start of South Africa's summer. The cable-car service to the 3,550ft summit with its grand views and gentle walks has been halted.

The cause of the fire, spotted on Saturday night, is not known. A police spokesman said: "It could have been ignited by glass, or something like it, lying in the sun."

Murder inquiry

Karlsruhe: Germany has launched an inquiry into the alleged involvement of Ali Fallahiyan, Iran's Security Minister, in the 1992 murder of four Iranian Kurdish militants in Berlin. *(AFP)*

Kuwait arms find

Kuwait: Police found weapons, including shells, grenades and mines, hidden in a deserted farm near the Saudi border. The weapons were among those left behind by Iraqi invasion forces. *(Reuter)*

Coup questions

Seoul: South Korean prosecutors said they would consider taking former President Choi Kyu Hah in for questioning if he continued to reject an official request to shed light on a 1979 coup. *(Reuter)*

Piano knockout

Scottsdale, Arizona: An 82-year-old piano tuner trying to fulfil his lifelong ambition of sailing from San Diego to Honolulu was rescued 1,000 miles out to sea after knocking himself out. *(AP)*

The argument for choosing Orange is very simple and straightforward. Connect to Orange and you won't just be part of the UK's most exciting digital network – you'll also enjoy considerable savings in comparison with the tariffs charged by the traditional mobile operators.

Just take a look at how little Orange can cost:

		Standard rated calls	Peak	Off Peak
15	£15.00	15 minutes	25p	12.5p
30	£25.00	60 minutes	20p	10p
100	£100.00	200 minutes	18p	
200	£175.00	660 minutes	16p	
300	£240.00	940 minutes	14p	

Note: All prices exclude VAT. †Standard rated calls only (most UK national calls, excluding those to other mobile services or premium rate services). A one-off connection charge of £30.00 applies.

The messages are really very simple indeed. Connect to Orange and you'll enjoy the very best in digital, mobile communications. Connect to Orange and you'll be part of a network that offers its users, on average, savings of £20 every month compared to Cellnet and Vodafone equivalent tariffs.

And the reasons why you'll save money month after month after month are so clear:



Key cost saving benefits

- Cellnet and Vodafone give you no calls with their £29 (including VAT) tariff. Orange include an extra 60 minutes of standard rated calls free.
- Cellnet and Vodafone round your calls up to the nearest minute or half minute. With Orange you're charged by the second so you only pay for what you say and that can mean considerable monthly savings.
- Calls from a BT fixed phone to an Orange phone are at least half the price of calls to Cellnet and Vodafone. That means big savings for people who call you from ordinary phones.

Whether you have a mobile phone already or you're considering a purchase stop now, and consider Orange. All you need do is return the coupon to find out how you could become part of the UK's most affordable wirefree digital network.

Or, to purchase, call 0500 80 10 80 now and within 2 working days your phone could be delivered ready to use. Alternatively, if you prefer you can visit your nearest Hutchison Telecom Retail store (see below).

Once you've got your phone, all you need do is charge the battery, dial 150 and you'll soon be connected to the network that matters. No fuss, no sales pitch, just practical access to the Orange network. When you consider quite how cost-effective it is to be part of Orange, we hope you'll call us at once. We'll even tell you how you can buy an Orange phone for as little as £49.99 (including £50 cashback).

Connection to Orange is subject to status and a refundable deposit may be required before you can be connected.

Buy Orange and save – call

0500 80 10 80

ext 3100

Orange users on average save £20 every month.

In just TWO working days you could join them.

- Most other networks charge you up to 36p to listen to an Answer Phone message – we charge you only 6p a minute.
- Cellnet and Vodafone charge 34p a minute for 0845 calls – we charge only 10p peak rate.
- Cellnet and Vodafone think Freephone should be 29p peak rate – at Orange it's exactly what it says: free (with the exception of calls to charge card services).
- Cellnet and Vodafone think business tariff should be peak rate on Saturdays – Orange treat the entire weekend as off peak.

yes I'd like to find out more about Orange – please send me full details

Mr/Mrs/Ms Forename Surname

Address

Postcode

Occupation

Business address

Postcode

Home Telephone Number No. residents in household

Are you currently a mobile phone user? ☐ Yes ☐ No (please tick)

If so, which network do you use? ☐ Vodafone ☐ Cellnet ☐ Mercury one 2 one

Other (please specify)

What company sends you your monthly bill? (eg Hutchison Cellular Services)

☐ Hutchison ☐ Vodac ☐ Talkland

☐ BT Mobile Communication ☐ Martin Dawes Communication

Other (please specify)

From time to time Hutchison Telecom may contact you with information on products and services that may be of interest to you. Please tick this box should you prefer not to receive this information. ☐

Reply address: Orange Press, FREEPOST (BS4339), Bristol, BS1 3YX.

Hutchison Telecom

3100

Chirac holds Milosevic responsible for airmen's fate ahead of Dayton pact ceremony

Paris to announce reprisals against Serbia over pilots

BY MICHAEL BINYON, DIPLOMATIC EDITOR, ADAM SAGE IN PARIS AND STACY SULLIVAN IN PALE

FRANCE will spell out this morning what action it plans to take if the Bosnian Serbs fail to provide information on its two missing pilots, Captain Frédéric Chiffot and Lieutenant José Souvignet.

Officials say it would be unthinkable to cancel the signing of the Dayton peace accords, to be held in Paris this week. But a range of reprisals, including moves to maintain the sanctions against Serbia, were under consideration last night, according to sources close to the Elysée Palace.

"We have set a deadline and, of course, we will stick to it," Hervè de Charette, the French Foreign Minister, told reporters at the Bosnia peace conference in London. "Let there be no doubt about the determination of the French."

President Milosevic of Serbia, due in the French capital for the ceremony, has been told that he is held responsible for the fate of the pilots. Since their capture on August 30, President Chirac has telephoned his Serbian counterpart five times in an attempt to secure their release.

The French ultimatum was met by silence in the Bosnian Serb capital of Pale, in spite of an implied threat to bomb their stronghold. At the weekend the streets of Pale were calm and children played football in the fields, apparently unconcered about the French threat. Pale accused the French of having bombed their capital this summer, but the French never laid claim to the alleged raid.

There is widespread speculation that General Ratko Mladic, the Bosnian Serb military leader, is holding the two men hostage. The Yugoslav newspaper *Nasa Borba* has quoted an unnamed source as saying that the general will return the pilots only if an international court in The Hague, which has indicted the general for war crimes, drops its charges.



De Charette: Paris will stick to its deadline

French officials say they have a numbers of options open to them, should the Serbs fail to comply. These include a threat to break diplomatic ties with Belgrade and a warning that the 10,000 French troops, due to police and protect Serb areas of Sarajevo, could be moved elsewhere. The last option appears unlikely, if only because the French military has already been criticised for its lack of enthusiasm for the Dayton accord.

Malcolm Rifkind, the Foreign Secretary, said on Saturday that Britain had full understanding for the French ultimatum, which he did not see as a threat to the implementation of the Dayton accord. He suggested that, if the pilots had been British, the Government would have taken a similar tough stance.

Mr Rifkind said nothing had been heard of the pilots since they were shot down, when they were known to be alive. The French ultimatum was serious, he said, and French domestic opinion was alarmed.

Under fire on almost all fronts, one of the few areas where President Chirac can claim political capital is over Bosnia. His forceful stance may have had little practical impact upon the peace process, but it is at least seen in France as honourable.

With the wives of the captured pilots threatening to attend the signing ceremony in Paris this week, M Chirac had no option but to take decisive action if he wanted to retain the initiative.

Klaus Kinkel, the German Foreign Minister, yesterday urged Serbia to secure the freedom of the two pilots. "I once more urge the Serb side immediately to free the two French pilots, who are assumed to be alive and in the hands of the Bosnian Serbs," he said in a statement.

"I made this demand in London with Belgrade Foreign Minister [Milan] Milutinovic. President Milosevic must show he is in control and can impose himself." He said Radovan Karadzic, the Bosnian Serb political leader, and General Mladic must have no more influence. They should answer for their actions before The Hague tribunal, he said.

Photograph, page 20





French pilots Captain Frédéric Chiffot, top, and Lieutenant José Souvignet were shot down at the end of August. Reports say General Ratko Mladic is holding them hostage

Turncoat's simple realism heralds a winter of peace

FROM ANTHONY LOYD IN VELIKA KLADUSA

THE Bosnian turncoat was unapologetic for his actions during the war, though he had swayed like seaweed in the tide of conflict.

First, he had served the government army's Fifth Corps, then separatist rebel forces loyal to Fikret Abdic, the autonomist Muslim leader, then the Fifth Corps, then the separatists once more, before ending up where he had started — with the Fifth Corps after three and a half years of fighting. He had been wounded twice — once by each side, by bullet and shrapnel respectively — and imprisoned four times.

"It was always a dirty game in western Bosnia, a business using humans, and I never wanted to fight one neighbour more then another, so I changed sides whenever I was captured," he said with shocking simplicity. Though the man is regarded with some suspicion by his neighbours, his experience is not unique. Now, thanks to the largest movement of refugees since the signing of the Dayton agreement, his life is becoming easier as former comrades in arms move back into the houses around him.

Western Bosnia's history was always complicated, even by the contorted norms of the Balkans. A predominantly Muslim populace was isolated by Serb forces in 1992. In spite of heavy fighting, the enclave in turn divided the following year. The enigmatic opportunist, Mr Abdic, led a Muslim revolt based in Velika Kladusa in the north of the pocket, backed by Croatian and Bosnian Serbs, against the Bosnian Government's supporters, including the Fifth Corps, around Bihac in the south. The Fifth Corps captured Velika Kladusa in the autumn of 1994, then lost it a few months later, finally recapturing it in August this year and prompting up to 24,000 Abdic supporters to flee for the second time to Croatia as refugees. There they created and lived in an impromtu shanty town, fearful of returning to their homes, while Mr Abdic was under house arrest in Zagreb. Many thought they would be tried as war criminals by the Fifth Corps and few could be persuaded to go back to Velika Kladusa.

After the Dayton agreement, however, their mood changed dramatically, and in the last fortnight up to 7,000 have returned to their homes. Most of the 14,000-16,000 others are expected to follow.

"I am 100 per cent confident that we can reintegrate without any problems," said the turncoat. "[President] Alijah Izetbegovic needs our votes in the coming elections, so he will not persecute us, and more importantly no one here, neither Fifth Corps nor autonomists, has anything left anyway, and our only chance to survive the winter is to help one another."



Abdic led breakaway among Muslims

Conference backs election team

BY MICHAEL BINYON AND OLIVER AUGUST

A 250-STRONG international force of election monitors will be sent to Bosnia-Herzegovina to oversee parliamentary elections throughout the divided country, and a new Peace Implementation Council, to replace the Contact Group, will be set up to supervise the peace process.

These were the main conclusions of the 53-nation London conference on implementing peace in Bosnia which ended on Saturday. Foreign ministers agreed that elections were of "paramount importance" and authorised the Organisation for Security and Co-operation in Europe to send a mission, including experienced European Union monitors: they are to be based in 30 centres around the country.

The elections are to be held towards the end of next year. In the run-up, the mission's main task will be to persuade local authorities to "ensure that all voters have the right to freedom of movement, association and expression and the right to vote without fear or intimidation".

The conference also agreed to a huge reconstruction programme, with special provisions for Sarajevo, the capital, and for the city's Serb minority. Ministers noted that as long as houses are uninhabitable, refugees cannot return even if their safety is guaranteed.

The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees will set up a trust fund to kickstart housing repairs. This will be underpinned by a wider effort to create a free market economy, encourage intercommunal trade, and set up local institutions with which aid agencies can work.

All public services will be restored in Sarajevo, and individual Western countries will sponsor their own rehabilitation projects to foster confidence in the peace process. A joint municipal council will be consulted on all issues.

The conference failed to settle the tricky issue of how much each country should pay to rebuild Bosnia. The World Bank estimates that the bill will run to about £5 billion, and European diplomats want it to be split between Europe, America and the rest of the world. But Washington has said it is willing to pay only 20 per cent, and Japan has not yet agreed to make any contribution. A pledging conference is planned for early March.

The peace council will be headed by Carl Bildt, the EU mediator in Bosnia. He will sit in Brussels, and Michael Steiner, the German Contact Group member, will deputise for him in Sarajevo.

Up to £6,000† cashback with the Woolwich.

WHAT MORTGAGE BEST NATIONAL LENDER 1995

YOUR MORTGAGE 1995 Best Top Ten Building Society

Plus a 3% discount in the first year.

4.74% (4.9% APR) FOR 1 YEAR

At the Woolwich our new Cashback Plus Mortgage offers up to £6,000† cashback and a 3% discount. It's available to all new mortgage customers and existing customers on the move.

If you take out a mortgage at our standard variable rate, and do not borrow more than 95% of the Society's valuation, not only will we reduce your payments by 3% for the first year but – after completion – we will give you a cheque for 3% of the loan up to £6,000!

With our award-winning performance for our mortgages over the long-term, this offer is more proof that it's good to be with the Woolwich.

So call in to your local Woolwich branch to have a chat with our mortgage adviser. Or call us at local rate Monday to Friday 8.30am – 9.00pm, Saturday 9.00am – 3.00pm or Sunday 10.00am–2.00pm on 0645 75 75 75 quoting ref: TI1112.

It's good to be with the WOOLWICH — BUILDING SOCIETY —

YOUR HOME IS AT RISK IF YOU DO NOT KEEP UP REPAYMENTS ON A MORTGAGE OR OTHER LOAN SECURED ON IT.

†See our leaflet for full details.
The rate is variable and the APR is variable and typical. These terms apply only where a written offer of advance was issued on or after 02.12.95 and the mortgage completed by 31.3.1996. Typical example: based on an endowment interest rate of 4.74% 4.9% APR (this represents a discount of 3% off the standard variable mortgage rate, currently 7.74% 8.1% APR) and a purchase price of £43,000, a couple taking out a mortgage of £40,000 over 25 years (from which a Mortgage Indemnity Arrangement Fee of £658.75 will be deducted and where the amount of the advance is 93% of the Society's valuation of the property) would pay interest of £158.00 per month gross (300 payments). Accrued interest £79.00. Valuer's fee £135.00. Solicitor's mortgage charges £100.00. Deeds Administration Fee payable on redemption £50.00 and a single repayment of capital of £40,000. Total amount payable £87,764.00. 4.74% 4.9% APR. The example assumes the mortgage starts in the middle of the month, a minimum guaranteed death benefit of £40,000 and a term of 25 years for the endowment policy. A first charge over your property will be required as security. For loans other than repayment loans, a suitable endowment policy, PEP or pension plan will also be required. A suitable level term assurance policy will also be required for PEP or pension plan mortgages. An indemnity policy, for which you will need to pay an arrangement fee, will be required where the mortgage exceeds the Society's normal maximum percentage advance of 75%. If the mortgage is either redeemed (in full or in part) or transferred to another scheme before the fourth anniversary of the date on which interest is first charged in respect of the mortgage, the value of the cashback you have received must be repaid in full and a redemption fee equivalent to the savings made as a result of the discount will be charged. The redemption fee will be subject to a maximum charge equivalent to 6 months' interest calculated at the rate payable at the time of repayment. The cashback may affect personal liability to Capital Gains Tax. All mortgages are subject to status, valuation and a minimum age of 18. A written quotation is available on request from any branch or from Woolwich Building Society, Dept LS, Corporate HQ, Watling Street, Bexleyheath, Kent DA6 7RR. The Woolwich Building Society represents only the Woolwich Marketing Group, which is regulated by the Personal Investment Authority for life assurance and unit trust business. C88

Stowaways' murderers sentenced

FROM REUTER IN ROUEN

A FRENCH court yesterday sentenced the Ukrainian captain of a cargo ship and his second-in-command to life imprisonment for killing eight African stowaways at sea off Portugal in 1992.

The court also sentenced three other Ukrainian crew from the *MC Ruby* to 20 years each for beating the eight — seven Ghanaians and one Cameroonian — with an iron bar, shooting them and dumping their bodies in the Atlantic.

Judge Jean Reynaud read out the sentences after more than 12 hours of deliberations by the jury after a month-long trial.

The killings were discovered because one Ghanaian stowaway, Kingsley Ofusu, escaped the massacre and hid in the vessel's hold.

He sneaked ashore when the ship docked in a French port and told his story to police. He took a handful of cocoa beans from the hold to help to support his story.

The jury acquitted a sixth defendant, from the separatist Georgian region of Abkhazia. The five sentenced have the right of appeal.

The accused had not denied the killings, but each tried to minimise his role in a trial that raised worrying questions over how often such incidents might occur at sea. Ships face big fines if found to be carrying stowaways.

The stowaways were found when some of them came out of hiding on the voyage from Takoradi in Ghana to Hamburg to search for water. They were locked up and later led out and murdered.

THE TIMES TWELVE DAYS OF CHRISTMAS COMPETITION



12 Fortnum and Mason hampers to be won

Starting today, and working our way backwards through the traditional Christmas carol, *The Twelve Days of Christmas*, *The Times* is offering readers the chance to win some fabulous festive prizes for the next twelve days, until Christmas Eve.

So, on the first day of our exclusive adaptation of the ever-popular tune, your favourite newspaper brings to you, not a *partridge in a pear tree, nor twelve drummers drumming*, but 12 luxury hampers from Fortnum and Mason.

The hampers, worth £150 each, are sturdy wicker baskets and contain:

Non Vintage Champagne; Muscadet sur Lie, 1993/4; Haut Médoc, 1992/3; Manzanilla Sherry; Christmas Pudding; Brandy Butter; Cranberry Sauce; Ceylon Tea Caddy; Sandringham Coffee; Crustamor Langoustine Soup; Dijon Mustard with Lemon; Highland Oatcakes; Paté Maison with Green Peppercorns; Mixed Olives with Sun-dried Tomatoes; Sir Nigel's Vintage Marmalade; Peach and Raspberry Preserve; Creamed Smoked Trout; English Kitchen Rich Fruit Cake with Sherry; Belgian Butter Biscuit Selection; Whole Pears in Light Syrup and Champagne Truffles.

HOW TO ENTER

To win a Fortnum and Mason hamper, simply tell us which carol these two lines come from:

Joyful all ye nations rise!
Join the triumph of the skies!

Call our competition hotline below with your answer. The line is open until midnight tonight. The first 12 correct entries chosen at random will win. Normal Times Newspaper competition rules apply.

CALL OUR HOTLINE ON 0891 66 55 34

Calls are charged at 39p per minute cheap rate and 49p at all other times

هكذا من الأصل

How a couple of vodkas in pleasant company can cost your wallet



Russia's new criminal trick will put you to sleep and, ***Thomas de Waal*** *found, will earn you little sympathy*

RUSSIA has a new fashionable crime and I recently became one of its victims. In the kind of episode I believed had gone out with the demise of the KGB, I had my drink spiked and ended up in hospital.

The favoured drug for this nefarious practice is called *klofelin*, the Russian form of the drug clonidine. Normally taken by people suffering from high blood pressure, it depresses the heart and blood pressure and puts you to sleep. The most common robbers are prostitutes or attractive young women in bars. But I was drugged by a pleasant-looking couple, who said they were married with two children. I was in Kursk, 250 miles south of Moscow, on the election trail of the Communist Party. It is a drab city, famous mainly for playing host to history's largest tank battle in 1943. A couple of hours before the train back to Moscow, I stopped to eat at the Elita restaurant in the central hotel in Kursk's Red Square.

The restaurant was crowded and the waitress asked if I minded if a young couple sat at my table. [Later I supposed they must have been in league with her]. They were smartly dressed and cheerful. We got talking and they introduced themselves as Kirill and Yelena from Riga. I was only too pleased to have some conversation on a dull evening in a small town. And in Russia you never refuse a glass of vodka. The only unusual thing was that they did not pour it straight from the bottle but fetched it from the bar in a carafe.

After two glasses I was feeling a bit hot and drowsy, so Kirill and Yelena took me for a walk in the snow to point out some of the sights of Kursk. Then we took a taxi to the station. Minutes before my train was due to leave, I was standing outside in the snow, feeling very faint, and I sensed that something was wrong.

Then I felt my wallet being eased out of my pocket. "You have taken my wallet!" I said stupidly. "No, I haven't. You must have dropped it," said Kirill. "Let's go back and retrace our steps." They started walking off into the trees. "No, we all three of us have to go to the police," I said ponderously. "No, Tom, over here!" they shouted. They were skipping, laughing, into the snow-laden trees. "Tom, over here!" they shouted again. And then they were gone.

I spent a couple of hours slumped in the police room at Kursk station, while an evil-minded policeman more or less accused me of being a drunken English spy. Then a kinder colleague of his dumped me on a train to Moscow. In the night I knew I had been drugged when I had hallucinations. I was in a strange place, holding a large book in my hands. On one occasion I was reading a huge copy of the *Financial Times*.

Next morning I staggered home on the Metro, so tired that I twice overslept and missed my stop. [In a depressing sub-plot, I had left my bag as security with the conductor, who wanted a bribe for carrying me without a ticket. My girlfriend later went back and paid him off. Even later, it transpired that he had stolen my dictaphone].

When I got into hospital, my pulse was in the thirties, disturbingly low. The doctors needed only one look at my cardiogram to diagnose the problem. For two days they gave me injections of the drug atropine and caffeine. It could have been worse. I could have had a weak heart or been left in a snow drift to share the fate of the 166 homeless people who have died of hypothermia in Moscow this winter. Doctors say clonidine poisoning has reached epidemic proportions in Moscow. More than 200 people were treated for the problem last year in Russia's top toxicology clinic, and the true number of victims must be much higher.

The beauty of it for criminals is that *klofelin* is available on prescription in drop form — very handy for slipping into your neighbour's drink. Foreigners are prime targets and visitors to Russia should beware. Foreign clinics say they now have several patients a month who have woken up in a strange place, with only a confused recollection of the friendly strangers they drank shots of vodka with the night before.

Leading article, page 17

Army hero fights hard campaign to conquer Duma

FROM RICHARD BEESTON IN YEKATERINBURG

RUSSIAN ELECTION

GENERAL Aleksandr Lebed may have swapped his combat fatigues for a business suit, but there is no mistaking the distinctive military bearing of the former paratrooper as he fights the most important campaign of his career.

Speaking to audiences of businessmen, soldiers and members of the public, the Afghan war veteran is near the end of a punishing election tour of the country, which has seen his transformation from a retired soldier to one of the most admired and feared politicians in Russia today.

Arriving in Yekaterinburg, the chaotic capital of the Urals, General Lebed, 55, wasted no time in repeating his pledge to make Russia great again and addressing the immediate concerns of a society suffering from economic deprivation and spiralling crime.

Yekaterinburg, President Yeltsin's home town, encapsulates all that is positive and negative about Russia today. The area's industrial and mineral wealth has attracted foreign business and made some local entrepreneurs millionaires. But most have still not benefited from reform and are looking back nostalgically to the days when the Soviet State imposed order and provided social security.

Even as the general toured the Urals, mafia gunmen shot dead Mikhail Lezhnyov, a parliamentary candidate and local businessman, in the nearby town of Chelyabinsk.

In his now familiar gravel tones, the general criticised the Kremlin for its inept leadership and promised, if he had the chance, to arrest corrupt officials, lock up the mafia leaders and restore Russia's role in the world as a leading power. "Our young lads in the police force are given a Makarov pistol and 500,000 roubles (£70) a month to fight criminals who are better armed and can buy off whoever they want with their millions," he said. "Our own men are not allowed to make a real fight against crime."

The accusation of official incompetence and indifference was well received by his audience of angry pensioners, admiring army officers and local manufacturers tired of having to make pay-offs to bureaucrats and protection money to the mob. "I came here because I was curious to see what Lebed was like," Leopold Sutser, a local manufacturer, said. "He is strong and forceful. Russia needs that today. We need it here in Yekaterinburg to restore law and order on our streets."

Vasili Tkachov, the head of a local youth employment centre, was similarly enthusiastic. "I came away with a very good impression of the man. He is honest and decisive," he said. "Somebody has to put our society back together, and that is why I will be voting for his Congress of Russian Communities party on December 17."

Sergei Kutznetsov, a journalist, said that in addition to General Lebed's obvious populist appeal the party's image was enhanced by Yuri Skokov, its leader, who put forward an attractive economic platform for cash-starved local factories.

Mr Skokov, a former presidential security adviser, used to head a large military concern and advocates a return to government control and state funding of strategic industries, which dominate the economy in the Urals.

"Lebed and Skokov together make a good team," Sergei Shardiko, a parliamentary candidate for a rival faction, said. "Unfortunately, I think they will do well here."

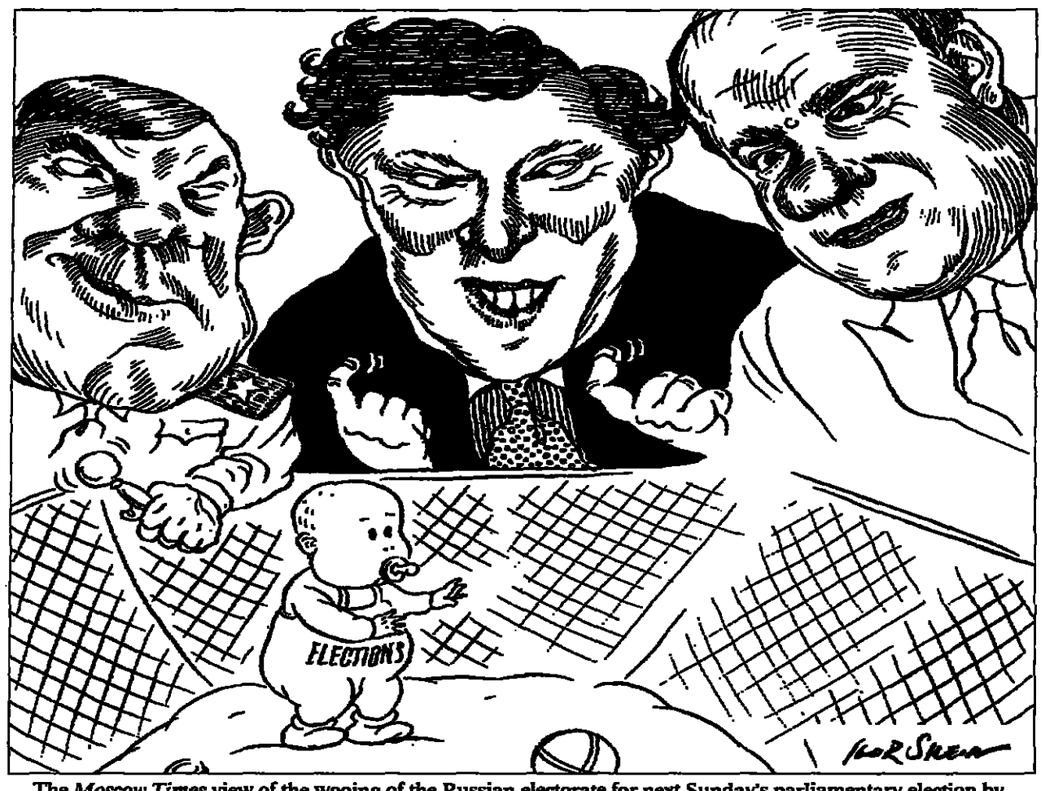
Nevertheless, the two partners still have much work left if they hope to get their message across. General Lebed is still a relative newcomer to politics and he will have to displace the well known neo-Fascist leader, Vladimir Zhirinovsky, if he hopes to dominate the nationalist vote. Further, while many Russians admire him for his honesty and straight talking, they are fearful that electing to power a man who has modelled himself on General Pinochet, the former Chilean dictator, could presage an era of repression not witnessed in Russia since Stalin.

"I like what Lebed had to say, but it is clear he is a soldier not a politician," Larissa Levchenko, a retired academic, said. "It is dangerous to mix the two. We are better off leaving politics to the politicians and the fighting to the soldiers."

☐ **St Petersburg:** Vitali Savitsky, a Russian deputy who led a Christian political party running in next week's parliamentary elections, has been killed in a car accident, the police said yesterday. Mr Savitsky, head of the committee on religious affairs in the Duma, the lower house of parliament, died late on Saturday during a campaign visit to St Petersburg. He was 40.

Mr Savitsky, his aide and his driver had just left a radio station when, on a road next to the Neva river, a Mercedes struck their car, the police said. Mr Savitsky died immediately and the other two were taken to hospital in serious condition. The driver of the Mercedes was not injured.

Mr Savitsky headed the Christian Democratic Union, one of 43 parties running in the election. A biologist by training, he championed many environmental causes in the Duma. He also pushed for revision of Russia's laws on religion and especially for a crackdown on several religious sects. *(AP)*



The *Moscow Times* view of the wooing of the Russian electorate for next Sunday's parliamentary election by, left, General Aleksandr Lebed, Grigori Yavlinsky, the liberal, and Gennadi Zyuganov, the Communist

NEWS IN BRIEF

Nationalist leader may face TV ban

Moscow: Russia's Central Electoral Commission on Saturday accused ultra-nationalist Vladimir Zhirinovsky of breaking the law by inciting people to violence on national television.

Tass said the watchdog had asked the state prosecutor to review comments by Mr Zhirinovsky last Wednesday in which he said he would napalm Chechen villages if even one Russian soldier was killed there.

Mr Zhirinovsky could be barred from the December 17 elections if he offends again. *(Reuter)*

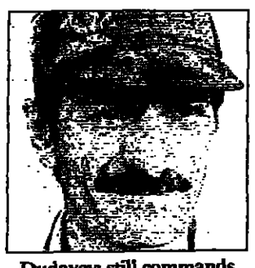
Kazakh ballot

Alma Ata: Voting for members of Kazakhstan's new lower House of parliament filled 43 of the 67 seats, but a second round must be held to obtain the two-thirds needed for a quorum, according to electoral officials. They reported a 78 per cent turnout of the 8.9 million voters in the former Soviet republic in Saturday's ballot. *(Reuter)*

Belorussia votes

Minsk: Belorussia voted in run-off elections to fill the parliament after two rounds failed to produce enough deputies. Mechislav Grib, the parliamentary Speaker, hoped the run-offs would fill 40-45 seats, despite early reports of a 28.5 per cent turnout. President Lukashenko failed to vote: his spokesman said he had a cold. *(AP)*

Moscow pins its hopes on Chechen war-weariness in one-horse race



Dudayev: still commands strong military support

FROM ANATOL LIEVEN IN GROZNY

A YEAR to the day after the Russian military intervention in Chechenia began one of the bloodiest episodes in post-Soviet history, the centre of Grozny remains a field of ruin and real peace seems as far away as ever.

The few buildings to have survived intact have been repainted by Russian workers in pinks and yellows. But in the words of a worker with one of the Western aid organisations, "they've stuck in cheap plywood window frames and doors, but that's it — they haven't actually rebuilt anything or built anything new." There are persistent rumours that most of the money intended for rebuilding Grozny has disappeared in Moscow.

Outside the city centre, most of Grozny survived battered but more or less intact. The population today is estimated at about two-thirds of its prewar figure. Ethnic Russians, who used to predominate, are now barely a quarter of the number who lived there before 1991, when the Chechen revolution swept General Dzhokhar Dudayev to power and began three years of lawlessness and economic decline.

The lawlessness continues today, swollen by the war and virtually unchecked by the Russian Army. Russian troops are indeed now playing a largely passive role in Chechenia, responding when shot at but very rarely taking the offensive. Chechen fighters prowl round their positions, occasionally peppering them with bullets and grenades.

At present, Moscow's strategy seems to be to withdraw as far as possible into the background and to push forward the pro-Russian Government of former Communist boss Doku Zavgayev, regarded by many Chechens as a Russian puppet. Chechen separatist fighters have vowed never to hold talks with Mr Zavgayev and, although he will certainly be elected in elections next Sunday in which he is the only real candidate, it seems unlikely he can bring peace.

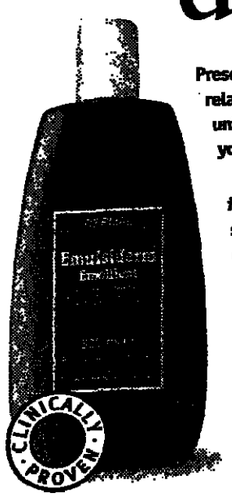
Ruslan Khasbulatov, the only serious rival to Mr Zavgayev in the elections, has announced that he is withdrawing his candidature. He said it was impossible to hold fair and orderly elections in present conditions. Since the other candidates are nonentities, this reduces the elections to a virtually meaningless one-horse race.

The separatists based in the mountains, however, seem unwilling to resume large-scale fighting, short as they are of heavy weapons and knowing the intense war-weariness of most Chechens.

Moscow presumably hopes to build on this war-weariness to isolate President Dudayev. However, this hope could prove ill founded. President Dudayev may be disliked by many of his own men, but the cause of Chechen independence that he represents is supported by formidable military commanders.

AVAILABLE ONLY AT PHARMACIES

Bathe away the bugbear of eczema & dry skin



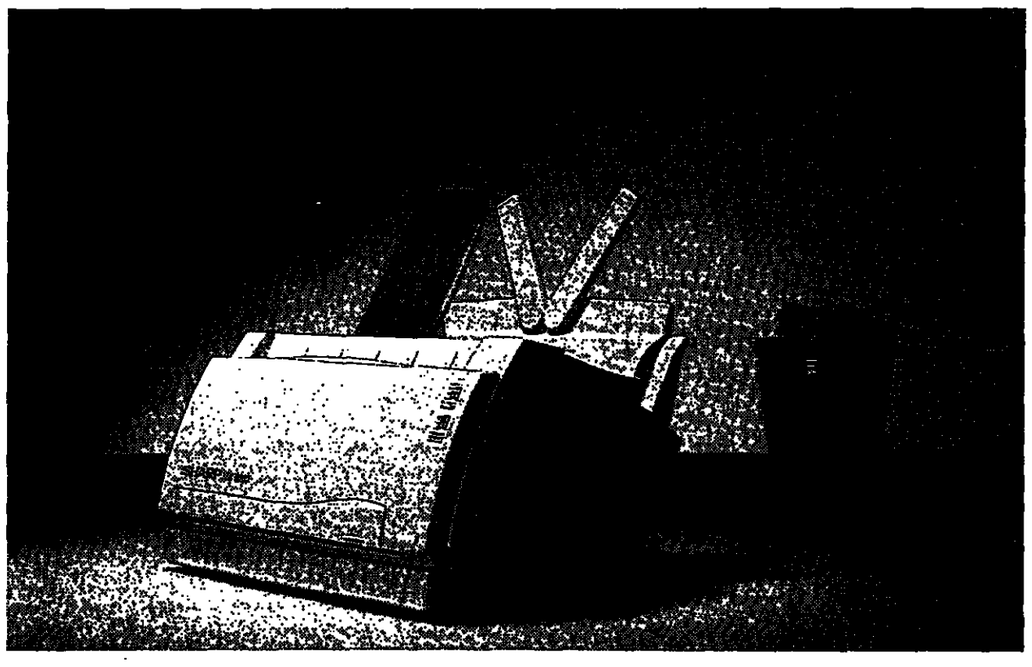
Prescribed by dermatologists and GPs for a range of medically related dry skin disorders, the EMULSIDERM formulation is a unique, clinically-proven skin treatment available now from your pharmacist, without prescription.

EMULSIDERM's unique combination of *three active ingredients* has been specially developed not only to gently soothe, smooth and rehydrate the dry, itchy skin of dermatitis. EMULSIDERM has also been scientifically proven to combat the bacteria *Staphylococcus aureus* – a bug which extensive medical research has linked to flare-ups of atopic eczema.

EMULSIDERM does *not* contain any steroid or any perfume or lanolin, and is suitable for all ages. For quick and effective skin therapy, simply add a small quantity to your bath.

Ask for EMULSIDERM *by name* at the pharmacy section of your local chemist. Always read the label.

Emulsiderm®



The Sharp JX-9200 laser printer.
Good for business. Bad for inkjets.

Laser printers have always been good for your presentation, but not quite so good for the annual budget. The new JX-9200 is set to change all that. Because for only £299* it's the same price as an inkjet.

What's more, it has lower operating costs because it doesn't use developer and continually recycles toner. But this won't affect print quality. In fact, it's better than ever. (Especially the JX-9210 which has a 600 x 600 DPI.)

And with a fast print speed of 4 pages per minute and a rapid first page of only 28 seconds, the JX-9200 saves you time as well as money.

That's not all. The JX-9200 is also compatible with all versions of Microsoft Windows™ software†, including Windows 95™.

Combine this with the 'Graphic User Interface' and you've got a printer that talks you through the entire printing process. Even if there is a problem, the solution will immediately appear on your PC screen.

What's more, the JX-9200 is also the world's smallest laser printer, with a footprint that's smaller than a sheet of A4 paper.

So if you're a growing business, why not invest in the JX-9200?

At £299*, it'll certainly look good on paper.

To find out more call free on 0800 262 958, quoting reference PTIH1.

SHARP
INTELLIGENT THINKING

PC WORLD • JOHN LEWIS PARTNERSHIP • TEMPO • COMET • ABGOS • SUNRISE ELECTRONICS (0171 637 3727) • MICRO ANVIKA (0171 636 2547) • ALTERNATIVES (0500 343141) • PRINTERLINE (01709 530880) KNOWLEDGE TREE (01706 832832) • INMAC (0990 146622) • ELONEX (0181 452 4444) • PERSONAL BUSINESS CENTRES. *SSP EXCLUDING VAT. †NOT COMPATIBLE WITH WINDOWS™ NT.

ARTS
THE WEEK AHEAD



VISUAL ART

The Whitechapel surveys the work of Emil Nolde, master of German Expressionism

OPEN: Now
REVIEW: Tomorrow



OPERA

Lesley Garrett stars in *La Belle Vivette*, ENO's Offenbach adaptation at the London Coliseum

OPENS: Tonight
REVIEW: Wednesday



POP

Curtis Stigers beats about the Shepherds Bush with his big booming ballads

GIG: Tonight
REVIEW: Wednesday



MUSIC

The London Philharmonic pays tribute to Sir John Barbirolli at the Festival Hall

CONCERT: Wednesday
REVIEW: Friday

THEATRE: A thousand and one delights; plus, too many cooks spoil a favourite childhood dish

Bedtime stories to die for

Arabian Nights
BAC, SW11

ARE you sitting cross-legged? *Arabian Nights*, absorbingly dramatised by the young theatre company Two Planks and a Passion, invites us to gather round orientally on cushions. Looking down into a chamber encircled by low arches, we witness the tales which Sheherazade tells King Shahrayar to save her life.

A darkly bearded young man, gaunt-cheeked with intense eyes (excellent Elliot Levey), leads a woman veiled in delicate gauzes to a hanging urn. He pours water over her palms and kisses her forehead with a burning tenderness which seems adoring yet unsettled. Is their breathing passionate or distressed?

Then a second woman, soon replaced by a third, starts to relate the story of Shahrayar, who loved his queen with all his heart but, catching her red-handed with a lustful slave, killed her and embarked on a bitter regime, sacrificing his subsequent brides after their wedding nights.

Director Michael Gordon's company-devised adaptation brings the stories to life, subtly interweaving lively narration and suggestive action with minimal props. As Shahrayar's life story unfolds, the veiled woman seems like his adored wife, then his later victims. Soon his tale is dovetailing into those told by Sheherazade (sexy, sprightly Alit Kreiz). The bodies of Shahrayar's brides roll softly at his feet, like waves or the waking dead.

The actors' doubling brings out the pointedness of Sheherazade's fictions. The imaginative resourcefulness of the staging is charming. A pair of actors climb on two others' shoulders and, circling in the moonlight, magically become whispering deities of the night.

There are a few wobbles. The arches are so low they demand crouching exits. A few of the ensemble do not look quite comfy with the exotic, erotic dancing. But this is beautifully costumed, highly commendable theatre.

KATE BASSETT

DONALD COOPER



Checking Hansel's finger for size: Alastair Cording (Witch), Daniel Harcourt (Hansel) and Sara Stockbridge (Gretel) in *Hansel and Gretel*

A Grimm tale badly told

Hansel and Gretel
Lyric, W6

The little girl in front of me behaved rather oddly when her mother brought her back after the break. She screeched so loudly that only a few more minutes passed before she was taken out of the auditorium, never to return. She clearly believed that the first act had been a long, obscure punishment which, because of some unspecified sin she had committed during the interval, she was being forced to undergo a second time. As one who was screaming inside, yet had no kind lady to carry me back to the bar, I must say I sympathised.

Something has gone amiss this Christmas in downtown Hammersmith. On paper the signs are good. Two highly rated companies, Red Shift and Pop-Up, have joined forces to perform one of the sparkiest stories in the Grimm canon. But according to a programme note, this means they have moved to "a much more integrated process wherein everyone connected with important decisions has a voice". In plain English there has been a muddle, as this over-elaborate repackaging of the Hansel and Gretel story shows all too clearly.

At the risk of becoming a Young Vic bore — I seem to have written of little else lately — let me again recall Tim Supple's *Grimm Tales* last year. Why was this so gripping? Come to that, why was it a model piece of children's theatre? Because Hansel and Gretel, among other stories, was simply staged, lucidly told, and made no concessions to Disney cutenesss or liberal modishness.

Never before had I realised how hard their economically challenged father and stepmother try to dump Hansel and Gretel, and never had I seen how close the children get to becoming part of the food chain. Above all, I remember Linda Kerr Scott as a bony-nosed witch screeching and helplessly scratching with her Howard Hughes fingernails as she was forced at knifepoint into a smoking oven.

Actually, Jonathan Holloway's production at the Lyric Hammersmith is at its best hereabouts. Alastair Cording's mean Mancunian hag scrabbles gruesomely at the glass front of her modernish oven as she expires inside. Gary Thorne's decor is not overfussy, and the Grimms have not become either twee or artificially radical. The problem is rather that Hansel and Gretel play too little part in the proceedings. The offence is against narrative simplicity.

The evening begins with the arrival of a British folklore enthusiast and his boorish son ("I don't want to stay here, it's cold and a dump") in a welcoming Kiev household in 1996. After much dullish coming and going, the boy (Daniel Harcourt) settles down in front of the fire, and dreams he is Hansel. Eventually, and inexplicably, it emerges that the lady of the house (Anna Savva) dreamt she was his Gretel back in 1946. In other words, the fairy-tale itself is a play-within-a-play, whose purpose is to convert a spoilt English brat into a friend of Ukraine.

Michael Dalton's script, already cluttered, gets more and more confusing. Who is the character Anatoly, and why does he wander in and out? Above all, what is the point of introducing an abortive subplot in the form of an itinerant Cossack actor with plans to present a play about a mythic dragon? Even as a veteran of Beckett, I could not often see when, how and why the Kiev homestead of 1996 was also a Kiev theatre in 1946.

To the writers of the programme this is "multi-layered storytelling", but the sobbing tot who left after the interval would have described it another way. Aaagh, perhaps? At all events, she clearly has a future as a critic.

BENEDICT NIGHTINGALE

CLASSICAL CONCERTS

Not as compact as when on disc

Gabrieli Consort
Wigmore Hall

THIS year sees a new and welcome facet to the *Gramophone* Awards in a series of concerts by award-winners past and present at the Wigmore Hall, kicked off by a programme of sacred music by Bach performed by the Gabrieli Consort and Players. Their recordings of late-Renaissance music in large-scale reconstructions have won two *Gramophone* awards in recent years.

While there is inevitably some disparity between the near-perfection of the CD and the reality of a concert performance, it must be said that the current high standard of live music-making, at least in terms of accuracy and ensemble, has been influenced by expectations raised by what we hear on disc.

I had not previously heard the group perform Bach, and the approach adopted by their director Paul McCreesh was rather like a plunge into icy cold water after a steamy sauna: an invigorating but not altogether pleasurable experience. There were some good ideas, but these were not always realised as well as they might have been. For example, I liked the word-based approach to the chorales in the Christmas cantata *Dazu Ist Erscheinen der Sohn Gottes*, BWV40, and to the motet *Jesu, Meine Freude*, but surely that did not have to result in punched out, almost abrupt, renditions which all but sacrificed musical phrasing?

Tempos, as I would have expected from McCreesh, were fast, but, with these small-scale forces — two singers and two violins to a part — such fleetfooted performances can work very well. The tempo, for example, of the opening chorus of the cantata was good and lively, but there were moments here, as in the Mass in F major after the interval, where it all became just too frantic; muddle ensued for a few bars before things righted themselves.

McCreesh's beat is both too rigid and not sufficiently tight: his excellent singers needed more space, more flexibility in the phrasing; while his players required a firmer rhythmic grip.

I would guess that we might see a reconstruction of a Lutheran Christmas service on CD before too long. This will no doubt be very enlightening as far as the context for Bach's sacred music is concerned — and it will probably win an award.

TESS KNIGHTON

Vocal variations

Netherlands Chamber Choir
St John's, Smith Square

FOR a time it was a close thing whether there would be more people on stage than in the audience, but in the end the 24-strong Netherlands Chamber Choir was marginally outstripped by punters. No doubt the uninviting weather had something to do with it, although admittedly it is difficult to imagine a programme of 20th-century German and Dutch *a cappella* music ever causing a traffic jam in Smith Square.

The Netherlands Chamber Choir is a fully professional vocal ensemble that has been maintained by an enlightened Dutch Government since 1965, and I suspect that, for better or worse, any unsubsidised ensemble would have sprinkled some Brahms or Schumann part songs among the lesser-known names of Arnold Mendelssohn, Henk Badings, Robert Heppener and J. Nepomuk David.

But, for all that, in practice this was a far from inaccessible programme. The Advent motet *Träufelt ihr Himmel von oben* by Arnold Mendelssohn (a distant relative of Felix) introduces conventionally harmonised chorales into a resourceful polyphonic setting, while the Gloria and Credo movements of Badings's *Missa Brevis* of 1946 are full of dramatic incident.

Having taken a minute or two of the Mendelssohn to warm up, the choir, directed by Uwe Gronostay, gave technically accomplished, expressive performances of all the works on the programme. But their *pièce de résistance* was Heppener's *Bruchstücke eines alten Textes: Del iubilo del core che esce in voce*. Reminiscent of Ligeti or Berio, it is a piece of exuberant absurdity, put together with great skill.

The choir delivered it with panache, while to Schoenberg's *Friede auf Erden* they brought a passionate intensity that aptly reflected the irony of the title ("Peace on Earth").

They may have had larger audiences, but not more appreciative ones. We applauded them right down the aisle and into the dressing room.

BARRY MILLINGTON

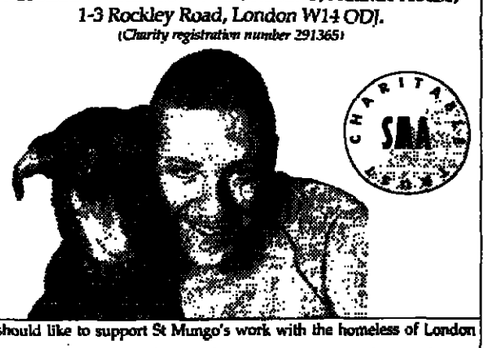
● **Building a Library *returns next week with a review of the best recordings of Mahler's Sixth Symphony***

Christmas on the street – or safe at St Mungo's?

It probably says a lot about St Mungo's that when we take people off the street, we find room for their best friend too. Being in St Mungo's means a clean, warm bed in a safe haven. It means decent treatment and friendly, acceptable help. There never has been any taint of chilly, Victorian charity about St Mungo's. It's probably one of the reasons why the Association has been so successful over the years. But that very success has brought its own problems. Demands on us grow year by year. People who were in long stay mental institutions are now semi-permanent guests in St Mungo hostels. We make it our policy not to turn anyone away from our direct access hostels if it can be avoided. And once we accept people we do all we can to rehabilitate, retrain and resettle them.

So we have set ourselves very high standards indeed. Will you help us maintain those standards? We would be so grateful and so would the homeless of London, not to mention their dogs. Please would you send whatever you can afford, with the coupon below, to: the St Mungo Association Charitable Trust, Room G, Atlantic House, 1-3 Rockley Road, London W14 0DJ.

(Charity registration number 291365)



I should like to support St Mungo's work with the homeless of London and I enclose a cheque/po for £..... or please debit my Visa/Access card no.....

Exp. date.....Signed.....

Name (please print).....

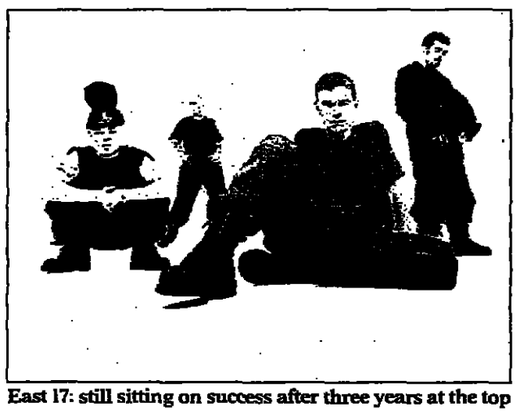
Address.....

If you can't help us at the moment, do fill in and send the coupon and we will keep you informed of our work. Thank you.

POP: The return of the Walthamstow warriors; plugged in with the Amps

The music of merchandise

East 17
Albert Hall



East 17: still sitting on success after three years at the top

THE batteries powering pop's conveyor belt generally need a recharge every two years or so. By that measure, East 17's three-and-a-bit years as one of the Top 40's house bands practically qualify them for a gold watch.

The Walthamstow warriors are now said by their record company to have sold 2.7 million singles in this country and more than 6.5 million worldwide. This time last year they were on their way to the Christmas No 1 with *Stay Another Day*, regarded as the most enduring work to date of East 17's "serious one", songwriter Tony Mortimer.

But 1995 has revealed a hairline crack in the East 17 stonework: after seven Top Ten hits, their last two singles have failed to enter that winners' circle. But their current, third album, *Up All Night*, displays a genuine attempt at creative growth, as it is the first to feature the writing of all four band members.

The group's empire is expanding in other ways too. The merchandising range advertised in the CD booklet has expanded from the 12 lines available at the time of last year's *Steam* album to 14. Their fans, largely female, largely teenaged or younger, can thus save their pennies for an East 17 mini-rucksack (£18) or, less appropriately, East 17 underpants (£15). Bad news, though, for those who did not get around to securing an East 17 bathrobe at £35 a pop, as that has lost its place in the "official range".

The first of three Albert Hall shows in a five-date itinerary had them on a Christmas tree-bedecked stage, the frequent appearance of dance teams adding to the Holiday on Ice scene. With Brian Harvey taking the lead, and John Hendy and Terry Coldwell cavorting gamely, Mortimer cut a distant, older-brother figure, but the image was somewhat dented by his frequent midsong raps in which the group's love of American swingbeat soul is occasionally brought down to earth by a cockney inflection. Thus "night-time" becomes "night-toime" and one suddenly remembers Dick Van Dyke talking about someone called Meery Puppins.

It was of no import to several thousand devotees, and as the artificial snow fell on *Stay Another Day*, the seasonal scene was complete.

PAUL SEXTON

Current expressions of garage cool

The Amps
Astoria 2, W1

THE Amps weren't named by accident. An amp is something you plug in, turn on, crank up and allow to tear the place apart, which provides a pretty neat summary of this band's basic approach.

The Amps were put together in Dayton, Ohio, by singer-guitarist Kim Deal and drummer Jim MacPherson after their other, more famous, band the Breeders had to take time off following the enforced drug rehabilitation of Deal's guitar-playing twin sister, Kelley. As someone who had originally formed the Breeders as a side-project to the Pixies, but went on to sell more than a million records, Kim Deal knows how these things can grow.

The Amps' best moments resound with the irrepressible melodies and wide-open spaces that characterise Deal's songs in both the Pixies and the Breeders. A good example of this came when Deal sang *Pacer*, the title track of the Amps' recent debut album, a tuneful, mid-tempo number slightly reminiscent of the Velvet Underground's *I'm Waiting for the Man*.

For the most part the Amps looked and sounded like a garage band, revealing the fastest, trashiest side of their nature on the unruly *I Am Decided* and the surf-style single *Tipp City*. In between songs, Deal smiled her thanks, swigged from a can of beer and smoked endless cigarettes. She apologised for the brevity of their set, explaining that their album weighed in at just under 35 minutes, but they managed to spin it out by throwing in songs such as The Breeders' *Head to Toe*.

Maybe some people felt that a set which lasted for less than an hour wasn't value for money, but Deal isn't your average mid-range pop star. When she sings, she does it with such effortless cool that it's easy to understand why Kurt Cobain repeatedly said she is one of the few singer-songwriters he hoped to emulate.

ANN SCANLON



New Production
A sumptuous, sexy operetta by Jacques Offenbach.
Book and lyrics by Michael Frayn.

Today
December 13|14|16|18|20
21|23|28|30
January 4|10|13|15
19|23|24 at 7.30pm
December 23|30 January 13 at 2.30pm

Tickets from £8
Box Office 0171 632 8300
24 hours

هكذا من الأصل



■ MUSICAL

Stephen Sondheim's *Company* comes to the Donmar in a new Sam Mendes staging

OPENS: Wednesday
REVIEW: Friday



■ THEATRE

Simon Russell Beale stars as the National unveils Stoppard's *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead*

OPENS: Thursday
REVIEW: Saturday



■ FILMS

***Babe*, the Aussie comedy about the life of a pig, comes trotting in for the hols**

OPENS: Friday
REVIEW: Thursday



■ BOOKS

All sense and sensibility? Emma Thompson reveals her diary about filming Austen

IN THE SHOPS: Now
REVIEW: Saturday

ARTS
TUESDAY TO FRIDAY
IN SECTION 2

Daring to be different



DEE CONWAY

Going for broke: Tetsuya Kumakawa in Act I of Twyla Tharp's new ballet, *Mr Worldly Wise*, which received its world premiere on Saturday night

DANCE

Mr Worldly Wise
Covent Garden

Twyla Tharp certainly loves a challenge. Her new full-length ballet for Covent Garden sees the American choreographer relying on none of the conventions of the traditional opera house ballet. *Mr Worldly Wise* is not based on a fairy-tale, an historical incident or a work of fiction; there is no specific plot, not even an integrated score. No, Tharp has done things the hard way with her "theme ballet" and you will have to work hard to get the measure of it. But do it — it's worth the effort. *Mr Worldly Wise* stretches the full-length format into new and exciting territory, and it makes the Royal Ballet look terrific.

Mr Worldly Wise is, in fact, an allegory told through the language of 19th-century ballet. It was inspired by the life of Rossini — his music makes up the score — but the journey from excess through abstinence to moderation could apply to any artist struggling to reconcile art with life. Each act is assigned its own personality. The first is chaos and self-indulgence, the result of wild and early success. The second is rigorous self-denial, the necessary transitional cleansing before the balance and harmony of the final act.

The three leading characters embody the artist's dilemma. Irek Mukhamedov is Mister Worldly-Wise, the greedy and vain egoist who learns that only grace and humility will set him free. Darcey Bussell is Mistress Truth-on-Toe, whose essential simplicity shows him the path to enlightenment. Tetsuya Kumakawa is Master Bring-the-Bag, Mukhamedov's flamboyant apprentice and, eventually, the inheritor of his struggle.

Tharp should be extremely grateful to her designer, David Roger, for fleshing out her theme with such glorious imagination. Act I is a feverish world of commedia dell'arte grotesques where lusty vegetables dance amid the grandeur of a baroque palace. Act II is a calming landscape; Act III a genteel garden of top-hatted gentlemen and parasoled ladies. But while the ballet looks gorgeous it sounds colourless. The compilation of Rossini overtures, religious songs and spartan piano music does not add up to anything more than a disparate collection of excerpts desperately in need of a coherent statement.

The choreography has some problems, too, especially early on. Act I, with its self-conscious jokiness, is too facetious to allow the protagonist a creditable philosophical dilemma. Tharp's famous wit is occasionally misplaced and Mukhamedov's motivations are slow to materialise. Where is the spiritual emptiness that makes sense of what is to follow?

The work is full of steps, though — fast, light and, at times, incredibly beautiful. Tharp knows how to play to her dancers' strengths and the speed at which they are forced to move gives them an exhilarating alertness. Mukhamedov danced well on Saturday night, although he was perhaps enjoying life too much for a man "on the edge of madness". Bussell was a beacon of lustrous purity, while Kumakawa blazed like a dancing spitfire, manoeuvring with liquid ease, jumping and turning like a dynamo.

Unlike many ballet choreographers, who favour solo dancers over the group, Tharp writes best for the ensemble. She is a genius at layering the performing space; the more people on stage, the better she gets. This is why Act II really sparkles. Its ordered universe glows with limpid dignity, the corps de ballet interacting with a dazzling quartet of dancers (Leanne Benjamin, Deborah Bull, Stuart Cassidy and William Trevitt) in an intricate community of perpetual motion. This is choreography so good it could be its own ballet.

DEBRA CRAINE

LONDON

LA BELLE VIVETTE: Offenbach's operetta *La Belle Helene* is given a new story-line by Michael Fraym. Lesley Garrett stars as Vivette, the feted operetta star who inspires a young composer to produce a work casting her as the most beautiful woman in the world. Complications ensue. Ian Judge's spectacular new production for the ENO is conducted by James Holmes. **Coliseum**, St Martin's Lane, WC2 (0171-632 8300). Tonight: 7.30pm.

THE GLASS MENAGERIE Welcome *transfer from the Donmar for Sam* Mendes's radiant production. Zoe Wanamaker and Claire Skinner continue as mother and daughter; Ben Walden comes in as the new Tom. **Comedy**, Panton Street, SW1 (0171-369 1731). Opens tonight, 7.30pm.

CHAMBER ORCHESTRA OF EUROPE: Herbert Blomstedt takes over the baton from the indisposed Nikolaus Harnoncourt in a programme of Haydn and Brahms. Soloist is the Swedish mezzo Anne Sofie von Otter. **Barbican**, Silk Street, EC2 (0171-638 8891). Tonight, 7.30pm.

TODAY'S CHOICE

A daily guide to arts and entertainment compiled by Marit Hargie

BT SCOTTISH ENSEMBLE: After touring in Scotland, the Ensemble, under Clio Gould, comes to the Wigmore Hall for an evening of Shostakovich, Vaughan Williams and Bach. Soloist is the gifted, young oboist Daniel Bates. **Wigmore Hall**, Wigmore Street, W1 (0171-935 2141). 7.30pm.

ELSEWHERE

EDINBURGH: Look at me when I'm talking to you! Dame Edna Everage descends on the city with the first of seven chat shows. Her gorgeous guests include Sir Les Patterson and Madge. **Festival Theatre**, Nicolson Street, (0131-529 6000). Tonight-Sat, 7.30pm; mat Sat, 2.30pm.

MANCHESTER: After more than 30 years Sir Harry Secombe returns to Manchester to recreate the role of Samuel Pickwick in the acclaimed **Pickwick — The Musical**. Ruth Madoc co-stars as Mrs Bardell. **Opera House**, Quay Street, (0161-242 2503). 7.30pm.

NORTHAMPTON: Opening night for **Aladdin and His Wonderful Lamp**. This traditionally staged pantomime promises adventure, comedy, romance and plenty of audience participation. For children of all ages. **Royal Theatre**, Guildhall Street, (01604 32533). Tonight, 7pm. Contact theatre for schedule.

LONDON GALLERIES

British Museum: Westminster Kings and the Medieval Palace of Westminster (0171-636 1555). . **Hayward:** Art and Power: Europe under the dictators (0171-928 3144). . **National Gallery:** Paintings from National Trust Houses (0171-747 2885). . **Royal Academy:** Africa: Art of a Continent, David Hockney (0171-439 7438). . (0171-887 8000). . **V & A:** Jain Art from India (0171-938 8500). . **Whitechapel:** Emil Nolde (0171-522 7888).

THEATRE GUIDE

Jeremy Kingston's assessment of theatre showing in London

■ **House full, returns only**
◪ **Some seats available**
☐ **Seats at all prices**

◪ **A CHRISTMAS CAROL.** Revival of Ian Judge's popular but over-sweet production. Clive Francis plays Scrooge. **Barbican**, Silk Street, EC2 (0171-638 8891). Mon-Sat, 7.15pm; mats Thurs and Sat, and Dec 19 and Jan 2, 2pm. Until Jan 13.

☐ **CYRANO** The bittersweet love-story rethought as a battle within the Indian film industry. Bollywood star Naseeruddin Shah is a fine hero, and Ranjit Bolt's jokes are neat, but the new conflicts can't match moss in the original. **National** (Cottesloe), South Bank, SE1 (0171-928 2252). Tonight-Thur, 7.30pm; mat Thur, 2.30pm.

☐ **FUNNY MONEY:** Ray Cooney plays the man who finds a bag of bank-notes in his latest farce. **Playhouse**, Northumberland Avenue, WC2 (0171-839 4401). Mon-Sat, 8pm; mats Thurs, 3pm and Sat, 5pm.

☐ **HYSTERIA:** Henry Goodman plays Freud, with Tim Potter as Salvador Dali, in Terry Johnson's surreal, double award-winner. **Duke of Yorks**, St Martin's Lane, WC2 (0171-836 5122). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mats Thurs and Sat, 3pm.

◪ **JOLSON:** The highs and lows of the singer with with a monster ego. Brian Conley belts out the songs enjoyably with Sally Ann Triplett as Ruby Keeler. **Victoria Palace**, Victoria Street, SW1 (0171-834 1317). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm; mats Wed and Sat, 3pm.

◪ **THE JUNGLE BOOK:** Tim Supple directs his adaptation of three of Kipling's Mowgli stories for the Christmas season. **Young Vic**, The Cut, SE1 (0171-928 6363). Ring box office for schedule.

◪ **MOTHER COURAGE AND HER CHILDREN:** Diana Rigg in title role of Brecht's epic denunciation of war. Jonathan Kent directs a new version by David Hare. **National** (Olivier), South Bank, SE1 (0171-928 2252). Tonight-tomorrow, 7.15pm.

◪ **ROSENCRANTZ AND GUILDENSTERN ARE DEAD:** Adrian Scarborough and Simon Russell Beale play Stoppard's attendant lords in Matthew Francis's directorial debut here. **National** (Lyttelton), South Bank, SE1 (0171-928 2252). Previews Tonight-Wed, 7.30pm. Opens Dec 14, 7pm.

☐ **TREASURE ISLAND:** Roy Marsden and a largely fresh cast do the old yo-ho-ho. Marsden's Long John apart, last year's production was coolly received, but this time Phil Wilmot directs so here's hoping. **Mermaid**, Puddle Dock, EC4 (0171-236 2211). Tue-Sat, 7pm (Dec 12, 6.30pm). Mats most days 2pm or 2.30pm.

☐ **WHAT A SHOW!** Musical spectacular revolving around Tommy Steele, who sings, dances, grins and remembers the old days. **Prince of Wales**, Coventry Street, W1 (0171-8363 5987). Mon-Sat, 8pm; mats Wed, 3pm and Sat, 5pm.

☐ **THE WIND IN THE WILLOWS:** Jeremy Sinden plays the ebullient Toad in the now annual return of the National Theatre production. Less amazing stage effects here but still delightful. **Old Vic**, Waterloo Rd, SE1 (0171-928 6855). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm; mats Wed and Sat, 2.30pm; mats daily in week of Dec 26, 2.30pm.

NEW RELEASES

◆ **THE AMERICAN PRESIDENT** (15): What happens when the widowed President gets a girlfriend? Not much, even with Michael Douglas and Annette Bening. Director, Rob Reiner. **Empire** ◪ (0171-437 1234) **MGM Fulham Road** (0171-370 2636) **Trocadero** ◪ (0171-434 0031) **Odeon Kensington** (01426 914666) **Screen/Baker Street** (0171-935 2772) **UCI Whiteleys** ◪ (0171-792 3332).

ANGELS AND INSECTS (18): Procreative games in Victorian England. Handsome but stiff drama, with Mark Rylance, Patsy Kensit and Kristin Scott Thomas. Director, Philip Haas. **Curzon Mayfair** (0171-369 1720) **MGM Fulham Road** (0171-370 2636) **Odeon Swiss Cottage** (01426 914098).

THE BROTHERS McMULLEN (15): Irish-Americans agonise over love, commitment and beer. Modest feature debut by writer-director-actor Edward Burns. **Gate** ◪ (0171-727 4043) **Lumiere** (0171-836 0691) **Ritzy** (0171-737 2121) **Screen/Green** (0171-226 3520).

DR. JEKYLL AND MS. HYDE (12): Brash and unfunny comic update of Stevenson's story, with Tim Daly and Sean Young. Director, David Price. **MGM Haymarket** (0171-839 1527) **UCI Whiteleys** ◪ (0171-792 3332) **Warner** ◪ (0171-437 4343).

UNSTRUNG HEROES (PG): Diane Keaton directs this eccentric heart-warmer about a boy's charmed life with crazy relatives. With Nathan Wit, Andie MacDowell, John Turturro. **MGM Tottenham Court Road** (0171-636 6148) **Ritzy** (0171-737 2121) **Screen/Hill** ◪ (0171-435 3366).

CURRENT

◆ **GOLDENEYE** (12): Pierce Brosnan twinkles as the new James Bond. A rip-roaring thriller with a sense of humour; with Sean Bean. Director, Martin Campbell. **Barbican** ◪ (0171-638 8891).

CINEMA GUIDE

Geoff Brown's assessment of films in London and (where indicated with the symbol ◆) on release across the country

Conley belts out the songs enjoyably with Sally Ann Triplett as Ruby Keeler. **Victoria Palace**, Victoria Street, SW1 (0171-834 1317). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm; mats Wed and Sat, 3pm.

THE JUNGLE BOOK: Tim Supple directs his adaptation of three of Kipling's Mowgli stories for the Christmas season. **Young Vic**, The Cut, SE1 (0171-928 6363). Ring box office for schedule.

MOTHER COURAGE AND HER CHILDREN: Diana Rigg in title role of Brecht's epic denunciation of war. Jonathan Kent directs a new version by David Hare. **National** (Olivier), South Bank, SE1 (0171-928 2252). Tonight-tomorrow, 7.15pm.

ROSENCRANTZ AND GUILDENSTERN ARE DEAD: Adrian Scarborough and Simon Russell Beale play Stoppard's attendant lords in Matthew Francis's directorial debut here. **National** (Lyttelton), South Bank, SE1 (0171-928 2252). Previews Tonight-Wed, 7.30pm. Opens Dec 14, 7pm.

TREASURE ISLAND: Roy Marsden and a largely fresh cast do the old yo-ho-ho. Marsden's Long John apart, last year's production was coolly received, but this time Phil Wilmot directs so here's hoping. **Mermaid**, Puddle Dock, EC4 (0171-236 2211). Tue-Sat, 7pm (Dec 12, 6.30pm). Mats most days 2pm or 2.30pm.

WHAT A SHOW! Musical spectacular revolving around Tommy Steele, who sings, dances, grins and remembers the old days. **Prince of Wales**, Coventry Street, W1 (0171-8363 5987). Mon-Sat, 8pm; mats Wed, 3pm and Sat, 5pm.

THE WIND IN THE WILLOWS: Jeremy Sinden plays the ebullient Toad in the now annual return of the National Theatre production. Less amazing stage effects here but still delightful. **Old Vic**, Waterloo Rd, SE1 (0171-928 6855). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm; mats Wed and Sat, 2.30pm; mats daily in week of Dec 26, 2.30pm.

◆ **THE AMERICAN PRESIDENT** (15): What happens when the widowed President gets a girlfriend? Not much, even with Michael Douglas and Annette Bening. Director, Rob Reiner. **Empire** ◪ (0171-437 1234) **MGM Fulham Road** (0171-370 2636) **Trocadero** ◪ (0171-434 0031) **Odeon Kensington** (01426 914666) **Leicester Square** (01426 915683) **Marble Arch** (01426 914501) **Swiss Cottage** (01426 914098) **UCI Whiteleys** ◪ (0171-792 3332).

◆ **MURDER IN THE FIRST** (15): Flashy but absorbing Alcatraz drama, with Kevin Bacon, Christian Slater and Gary Oldman. Director, Marc Rocco. **Clapham Picture House** (0171-498 3323) **MGMx: Fulham Road** (0171-370 2636) **Haymarket** (0171-839 1527) **Odeon Swiss Cottage** (01426 914098) **UCI Whiteleys** ◪ (0171-792 3332) **Warner** ◪ (0171-437 4343).

MY DARLING CLEMENTINE (U): John Ford's wonderful 1946 western about Wyatt Earp, with Henry Fonda, Linda Darnell and Victor Mature. **Renoir** (0171-837 8402).

◆ **THE SANTA CLAUSE** (U): Divorced dad becomes the new Santa. Broad family comedy with a human face. **MGM Chelsea** (0171-352 5096) **Odeons: Kensington** (01426 914666) **Swiss Cottage** (01426 914098) **West End** (01426 915574).

ENTERTAINMENTS

ART GALLERIES

A MAJOR EXHIBITION of Russian & soviet art at the Roy Miles Gallery 29 Bruton Street, W1 0171-495 4747

LEFEVRE GALLERY 30 Bruton St. W1. 0171-493 2107 An exhibition of **MODERN BRITISH ARTISTS** 1900-1945 27 Nov-20 Dec. Mon-Fri 10-5

MacConmel - Mason. Christmas Exhibition. Paintings under £5000 14 Duke St, St James's London SW1 & 15 Burlington Arcade, London W1. Tel: 0171 839 7693

SPINK. The Botanical Garden. Watercolours by Gillian Barlow 29 Nov-22 Dec Mon-Fri. 9am-5.30pm, Tues 9am-7.30pm. 5 King St SW1

OPERA & BALLET

COLISEUM 0171 632 8300 (24hr) **ENGLISH NATIONAL OPERA** Ton't (FIRST NIGHT) 7.30 **LA BELLE VIVETTE** Tomor 7.30 **TURANDOT**

ROYAL OPERA HOUSE 0171 304 4000 for Box Off & Standby info. Tickets available on the day. **The Royal Opera** Tom't, Wed (Last Night) 7.30 **TOSCA** Tomor, Sat 7.30 **AIDA** **The Royal Ballet** Thur 7.30 (Last Night) Balanchine's **APOLLO**/MacMillan's **SIDE SHOW**/Balanchine's **DUO CONCERTANT**/Page's **FEARFUL SYMMETRIES** Fri 7.30 **TWYLA THARP ROSSINI BALLET**

ROYAL FESTIVAL HALL 071 960 4242 ENGLISH NATIONAL BALLET **THE NUTCRACKER** 18 December-5 January **SWAN LAKE** 8 -13 January

180,000 readers of this section visit Art Galleries and Exhibitions at least once a year.

To advertise your exhibition in The Times Art Gallery Guide on Wednesday's please call our Entertainments Team on 0171 481 1982 or fax on 0171 481 9313.

THEATRES

ADELPHI **"ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER'S MASTERPIECE"** Wall St Journal **SUNSET BOULEVARD** **Winner of 7 Tony Awards including BEST MUSICAL** Starring **ELAINE PAIGE** 24HR CREDIT CARD BOOKINGS CALL 0171 344 0055 (bkg fee) GRP BOOKING 413 3302 (bkg fee) No booking fee for Adelphi Box Office Callers Recorded Information 0171 379 6884 Mon-Sat 7.45 Mats Thur & Sat 3.00

ALBERY BO 0171 369 1730 cc 0171 344 4444 (no bkg fee) Grp 0171 413 3311 **"FIVE STAR SHOW ...IRRESISTIBLE"** D.Exp **FIVE GUYS NAMED MOE** **SIXTH STOMPING YEAR** Mon-Thu 8pm Fri & Sat 6 & 8.45 **LAST 5 WEEKS** Fri & Sat 6pm perf:Top 4 prices 2 for 1

ALDWYCH cc 0171 416 6003 0171 420 0000 (no fee) Evgs 7.30, Mats Wed & Sat 3.0 **MAGGIE CURACK** **MARGARET TYZACK** **PAUL BHATTACHARJEE** **INDIAN INK** **"TOM STOPPARD'S TRIUMPH - A BEAUTIFUL AND FUNNY FIREBALL OF A PLAY TO ILLUMINATE THE WEST END"** Today. Directed by **PETER WOOD** **LAST 4 WEEKS ENDS JAN 6**

AMBASSADORS 836 6111/420 0100/344 4444 For 7 weeks only **TRAINSPOTTING** Award-winning play from Irvine Welsh's novel "Feverishly Funny" Guardian Mon-Fri at 8 Sat 5 & 8.30 Wed Mat at 5 Press Night this Fri 7.00pm

APOLLO VICTORIA cc 0171 416 6055 cc 24hrs 0171 344 4444/0171 420 0000 Grps 0171 418 6075/ 413 3321 **Andrew Lloyd Webber's** New production of **STARLIGHT EXPRESS** **"A REBORN THEATRICAL DELIGHT"** Daily Mail White knuckle runs 19.45 daily Tue & Sat 15.00 Tickets from £12.50

APOLLO 494 5068/344 4444/420 0000. Eves 8, Mats Thu 3, 5 & 8.15 **HAYLEY MILLS** **"Magnificent"** F.T **JENNY SEAGROVE** **"Impeccable"** Times **DEAD GUILTY** **"Richard Harris' new play is THE PERFECT THRILLER"** S.Times

BLOOMSBURY THEATRE B/O C.C 0171 388 8822 From Dec 18 Mon-Fri 11.30 & 3.00 W/C Dec 25 Tue-Sat 11.30 & 3.00 **BOOTY AT CHRISTMAS**

CAMBRIDGE BO & cc 0171 494 5064 cc (no bkg fee) 312 1992/ 344 4444 Grps 413 3321/ 312 1970/ 494 5454 **FAME** **THE MUSICAL** **"FAME IS A FEEL-GOOD TRIUMPH"** Mail On Sunday **"BREATHTAKING"** Independent Eves 7.30, Mats Wed & Sat 3.00 Extra Mat Thur 28 Dec at 3pm No Performance Mon 25 Dec

CHICHESTER FESTIVAL 12 - 16 Dec **A PASSIONATE WOMAN** The Smash Hit Comedy Direct from London's West End **BOOK ON 01243 781312**

COMEDY BO & cc 0171 369 1731 cc 0171 420 0000 (no bkg fee) **ZOE WANAMAKER in THE GLASS MENAGERIE** by **TENNESSEE WILLIAMS** Directed by **Sam Mendes** Eves 7.30 Mats Sat 3.00 **LIMITED SEASON** Extra Mats 28 Dec & 4 Jan at 3pm No Perfs 25, 26 Dec & 1 Jan

CRITERION 369 1747/420 0000/ 344 4444 **JONATHAN HARVEY'S NEW COMEDY HIT** **RUPERT STREET LONELY HEARTS CLUB** **"wickedly funny...brilliantly comic"** D.Mail Tues-Sat 8, Sat 4, Sun 3 & 7 **NB Two Sunday perfs!! OPENS WEDS**

DOMINION Ticketlines 0171 416 6060/ 0171 420 0000 (bkg fee). Grps 0171 416 6075/413 3321/420 0200 **GREASE** Starring **SHANE RICHIE** and **SAMANTHA JANUS** **"Fast, hideous & fun, fun, fun."** Daily Mirror Eves 7.30, Mats Wed & Sat 3pm **TICKETS AVAILABLE - APPLY DAILY TO BOX OFFICE**

DRURY LANE THEATRE ROYAL SS cc (Bkg fee) 24hr 7 days 0171 494 5000/344 4444/420 0000 Grps 494 5454/413 3311/812 8000 **MISS SAIGON** **"THE CLASSIC LOVE STORY OF OUR TIME"** **NOW IN ITS 7TH SENSATIONAL YEAR!** Eves 7.45 Mats Wed & Sat 3pm Extra Mat Thur 28 Dec at 3pm No performance Mon 25 Dec **Good seats avail for Wed Mat & some perfs - apply B.O. FOR TELEPHONE/POSTAL BOOKINGS & PERSONAL CALLERS 0171 494 5080 (BKG FEE)**

DUCHESS cc 0171 494 5070 cc 344 4444 (no bkg fee)/836 2428 (bkg fee) 0171-413 3321 Eves 8pm, Wed mat 3pm, Sat 5pm & 8.30 **"A SAUCY COMEDY"** E. Std **NOW IN ITS 5th YEAR** **DON'T DRESS FOR DINNER** **"Gloriously Outrageous"** T Out

DUKE OF YORK'S 0171 836 5122/6837 cc 420 0000/344 4444 (24 hrs, no fee) **ROYAL COURT CLASSICS** Henry Goodman, Aisling O'Sullivan, Fred Pearson, Tim Potter **HYSTERIA** Terry Johnson's "custard pie of comic brilliance" Time Out **BEST COMEDY** OLIVIER AWARD FOR 7 WEEKS ONLY Eves 7.30, Mats Thu & Sat 3pm

FORTUNE 0171 836 2238 From 13 Dec, A Magical Xmas Show **THE ENCHANTED TOYSHOP** "A real treat for 3-9 year olds"Gdn

FORTUNE BO & CC 0171 836 2238/0171 312 8033 **DAVID BURKE, ANDREW HAVILL** Susan Hill's **THE WOMAN IN BLACK** Adapted by Stephen Mallatratt **"A real thrill of horror"** S Times **NOW IN ITS 7TH YEAR** Mon-Sat 8pm Mats Tues 3pm Sat 4pm

GARRICK 0171 494 5085/ 0171 312 1990 (no bkg fee) **WINNER OF 19 MAJOR AWARDS** The Royal National Theatre production JB Priestley's **AN INSPECTOR CALLS** **"THRILLING...MUST BE SEEN"** D.Mail **"ONE OF THE MOST INTOXICATING, THEATRICALLY IMAGINATIVE EXPERIENCES OF THE 1990s"**E.S **"TWO HOURS OF ENTHRALLING, VISUALLY STUNNING DRAMA"**D.Tel **FINAL LONDON SEASON** Mon-Fri 7.45, Sat 5.00 & 8.15, Wed mat 2.30

GIELGUD Shaftesbury Ave cc 0171 494 5530 (no bkg fee) cc 0171 344 4444 (no bkg fee) Groups 0171 494 5454 **JULIA McKENZIE** **COMMUNICATING DOORS** by **ALAN AYCKBOURN** "A MELODRAMATIC COMEDY THRILLER WONDERFULLY FUNNY AND GENUINELY SCARY" D Tel "with the audience in turn ROARING WITH LAUGHTER AND LEAPING FORWARD IN FRIGHT" Independent Eves 7.30 Mats Wed & Sat 3.00 No Performance Mon 25 Dec

HAYMARKET 930 8800 cc 344 4444/420 0000 (bkg fee) THE PETER HALL COMPANY **ALAN BATES** 'superb'Times **GEMMA JONES** 'marvellous'Gdn **THE MASTER BUILDER** Peter Hall's fine new staging'D.Tel 'Not to be missed on any account' S.Tms. **FOR 4 WEEKS ONLY** Mon-Sat 7.45, Mats Wed, Sat 3pm

HER MAJESTY'S 24hr 494 5400 (bkg fee) CC 344 4444/420 0000 (bkg fee) Grps 494 5454/413 3311/930 6123. **ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER'S AWARD WINNING MUSICAL** **THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA** Directed by HAROLD PRINCE **NOW BKG TO 28 SEPT 96** Eves 7.45 Mats Wed & Sat 3.00. Apply to Box Office daily for returns. Extra Mat Thu 28 Dec at 3.00. No perf Mon 25 Dec

LONDON PALLADIUM BO/CC 0171 494 5020/344 4444 (£1 tkt serv chg) 420 0000 Grps 0171 413 3321 **Jill DALE** RETURNS TO THE WEST END **"A MAJOR THEATRICAL EVENT"** Daily Mail **OLIVER!** **2ND SPECTACULAR YEAR** **'LIONEL BART'S MASTERPIECE YOU CAN'T ASK FOR MORE'** S.Times Eves 7.30 Mats Wed & Sat 2.30 Extra Mat Thur 28 Dec at 2.30 No Performance Mon 25 Dec **SOME GOOD SEATS AVAIL NOW FOR WEEKDAY PERFS**

LYRIC Shaftesbury Ave BO/cc 0171 494 5045 cc 0171 344 4444 (no bkg fee) **Nichola McAuliffe** **Graham Turner** **and Frank Thornton** **HOBSON'S CHOICE** by Harold Brighouse Directed by Frank Hauser **"MAGNIFICENT....an evening that brims with laughter"** D Tel **"Frank Hauser's deliciously piquant revival is A DELIGHT"** Std Eves 7.30 Mats Wed & Sat 3.00 No Performance Mon 25 Dec **EXTENDED TO 3 FEB**

NATIONAL THEATRE BO 0171 928 2252. Grps 0171 620 0741.24hr cc bkg fee 0171 420 0000 **OLIVIER** Tom't, Tomor 7.15 **MOTHER COURAGE & HER CHILDREN** Bertolt Brecht in a new version by David Hare. Tom't 6pm, **PLATFORM: TOM STOPPARD** **LYTTLETON** Tom't, Tomor, (PREVIEWS) 7.30 **ROSENCRANTZ & GUILDENSTERN ARE DEAD** Tom Stoppard **COTTESLOE** Tom't, Tomor 7.30 **CYRANO** Edmond Rostand, adapted by Jatinder Verma, rendered into verse by Ranjit Bolt

NEW LONDON Drury Lane WC2 BO 0171 405 0072 CC 0171 404 4079 24hr 0171 344 4444/420 0000 Grps 0171 413 3311/930 6123 **THE ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER/ T.S. ELIOT INTERNATIONAL AWARD-WINNING MUSICAL** **CATS** Eves 7.45 Mats Tue & Sat 3.00 Extra Mats 27, 28 Dec at 3pm No Mat 25 Dec No Performance Mon 25 Dec LATECOMERS NOT ADMITTED WHILE AUDITORIUM IS IN MOTION, PLEASE BE PROMPT Bars open at 6.45 **LIMITED NO. OF SEATS AVAIL DAILY FROM BOX OFFICE.**

OLD VIC 0171 928 6555/312 8034 The Royal National Theatre's **THE WIND IN THE WILLOWS** **"AN ABSOLUTE WINNER"**Time Out **MATCHLESS PERFORMANCES... UTTERLY ENCHANTING...A SMALL MASTERPIECE"**Daily Mail **"A WONDERFUL EVENING"**F.T **"AN IRRESISTIBLE PIECE OF THEATRE"**LNR **Some Good Seats Still Available Before Christmas** Mon-Sat 7.30pm, Wed & Sat mats 2.30pm

PALACE THEATRE 0171-434 0909 cc 24hrs (bkg fee) 0171 344 4444 Grps 0171 413 3311 **THE WORLD'S MOST POPULAR MUSICAL** **LES MISERABLES** **NOW IN ITS 11TH RECORD-BREAKING YEAR** Eves 7.30 Mats Thu & Sat 2.30 Extra Mat Wed 27 Dec at 2.30 No Performance Mon 25 Dec Latecomers not admitted until the interval LIMITED NO OF SEATS AVAIL. DAILY FROM BOX OFFICE

PHOENIX BO/CC 0171 369 1733 /344 4444/420 0000 (fee) **BEST MUSICAL** **ALL 4 MAJOR AWARDS** **DAVID CASSIDY STARS FOR 4 WEEKS ONLY IN WILLY RUSSELL'S** **BLOOD BROTHERS** **STEPHANIE LAWRENCE** **CARL WAYNE** **...Brings the audience to its feet, and roaring its approval"** D Mail Eves 7.45 Mats Thurs 3 Sat 4 **EXTRA MAT 27 DEC AT 3**

PICCADILLY 0171 369 1734 cc 24hrs 344 4444, Grps 312 1970/413 3321 ***WINNER!*** **BEST MUSICAL** Evening Standard Award '95 **"ONE OF THE BEST MUSICAL PRODUCTIONS LONDON HAS SEEN FOR YEARS"** D.Express **"JERRY HERMAN'S WONDERFUL BURST OF MUSICAL FIREWORKS"** D.Mail **MACK & MABEL** **THE HOLLYWOOD ROMANCE** Mon-Sat at 7.45, Mats Wed & Sat at 3.00

PLAYHOUSE 0171 839 4401 /0171 420 0000/0171 344 4444 **AN ALL STAR CAST IN RAY COONEY'S NEW COMEDY HIT** **FUNNY MONEY** **"LAUGHS GALORE...A WINNER"**D Exp **"Better than Feydeau....priceless"**D. Tel Mon-Sat 8.00, Mats Thu 3.00, Sat 5.00 **THEATRE RESTAURANT** **0171 930 9445** **EXTRA MAT 27 DEC AT 3**

PRINCE EDWARD 0171 734 8951 cc (24hr no bkg fee) First Call 420 0100 / 0171 344 4444 Groups 930 6123. **BEST MUSICAL** **Laurence Olivier Awards 93** **'YOU'D BE CRAZY TO MISS IT'** D.Mail **CRAZY FOR YOU** **"IS A GREAT, GLORIOUS, GLAMOROUS GOLDMINE OF A SHOW"** S.Times Eves 7.45, Mats Thu & Sat 3.00 Extra Mat Wed 27 Dec at 3pm No Performance Mon 25 Dec **GOOD SEATS AVAILABLE THIS WEEK**

PRINCE OF WALES 0171 839 5972/420 0232/344 4444/416 6052 Grps 0171 420 0200/413 3321 **TOMMY STEELE** **WHAT A SHOW** **"Tommy's Show packs Flash, Bang, Wallop"** Eve Standard Evgs Mon-Sat 8pm, Mats Wed 3pm Sat 5pm **For a Limited Season**

QUEENS BO/CC (£1 bkg fee) 0171 494 5040/344 4444 Mon-Thu 8pm, Fri 8.45pm & Sat 6pm & 8.45pm **LILY SAVAGE** **PRISONER CELL-BLOCK H** **THE MUSICAL** **"Hilarious"**F.T **"A Huge Hit - A Christmas Smash"**Obs **5 WEEKS ONLY!** Stalls & D.C. £12.50 £24.00, Upper Circle £8.50

ROYAL SHAKESPEARE COMPANY LONDON (0171 638 8891) BARBICAN **A CHRISTMAS CAROL** Tom't 7.15 **THE PIT. SON OF MAN** Tom't 7.15 **STRATFORD** (01789 295623) **RST: JULIUS CAESAR** Tom't 7.30 **SWAN. THE CHERRY ORCHARD** Tom't 7.30 **TOP. THE PHOENICIAN WOMEN** Tomor 1.30

SAVOY THEATRE 0171 836 8888 cc 420 0000 grps 312 1970 No bkg fee **BELINDA LANG, KEVIN McNALLY** in Terry Johnson's award winning comedy **DEAD FUNNY** **"Blissfully Witty and Wicked"** Eve Stand Mon-Fri 8pm, Sat 8.15pm Sat mat 5pm & Wed mat 2.30pm

SHAFTESBURY 0171 379 5399 0171 344 4444 (24hr/no bkg fee) Groups 0171 413 3321 **TOMMY** **PAUL KEATING** As Tommy **KIM WILDE** As Mrs Walker Previews 20 February Opens 5 March

SHAFTESBURY 0171 379 5399 344 4444 (24hr/bkg fee) **IT'S BACK - 4 WEEKS ONLY 19 DEC-13 JAN INC MATS RETURN TO THE** **FORBIDDEN PLANET** THE COSMIC XMAS PARTY "deliriously addictive" D.Tel Mon-Thurs 8.00, Fri, Sat 5 & 8.30 No perf on Mon 25 Dec Extra mat Dec 27 at 2.30

SHAFTESBURY 0171 379 5399 CC 0171 344 4444 Until 16 Dec **EDDIE IZZARD** **ENTIRE RUN SOLD OUT** Queue daily for returns Tues - Sat 8pm & Sun 7.30pm

STRAND THEATRE Box Off & cc (no fee) 0171 930 8800 cc (bkg fee) 0171 344 4444/420 0000 Groups 0171 413 3321/0171 930 6123 ***BUDDY*** **The Buddy Holly Story** **"BRILLIANT"** Sun ***BUDDY*** **"WONDERFUL STUFF"** Sun Tel ***BUDDY*** Tues-Thurs 8.0 Fri 5.30 & 8.30 Sats 5.00 & 8.30, Suns 4.00 ALL SEATS 1/2 PRICE FRI 5.30 PERF **7th HEAVENLY YEAR**

ST MARTIN'S 0171 836 1443 (no bkg fee) 0171 497 9977 (bkg fee) Groups 0171 312 1994 (no bkg fee) Eves 8, Tues 2.45, Sat 5 & 8 44th Year of Agatha Christie's **THE MOUSETRAP**

VAUDEVILLE 0171 836 9987 cc 420 0000/344 4444 (no bkg fee) **"For a sparkling, affectionate and hilarious evening in the theatre, go and see The RSC production of** **THE SHAKESPEARE REVUE"** The Times **"This hugely enjoyable show"** Daily Telegraph Mon-Fri 8.00pm Sat 8.30pm Mats Wed 2.30pm Sat 5.30pm No Performance Mon 25 Dec

VICTORIA PALACE BO & cc (no fee) 0171 834 1317 cc (bkg fee) 0171 344 4444/312 1998/497 9977 Groups 0171 312 1997 (no fee) /0171 930 6123 (bkg fee) **BRIAN CONLEY** **"Gives the performance of the decade"Mail on Sunday** in ***JOLSON*** **"A resounding hit"** Sun. Tel ***JOLSON*** **"Worth walking a million miles to see"D.Mail** ***JOLSON*** Evgs Mon-Sat 7.30, Mats Wed & Sat 3.00 **Now booking to 28 Sep 96 . Some good seats available on the day of perf**

WYNDHAMS 0171 369 1736 **MAGGIE SMITH** **SARA KESTELMAN** **SAMANTHA BOND** **EDWARD ALBEE'S** **THREE TALL WOMEN** **Directed by ANTHONY PAGE** Tue-Sat 8pm Mats Wed & Sat 3pm **LAST WEEK MUST END SAT**

WHITEHALL 369 1735/344 4444/ 420 0000 **"BEST NEW MUSICAL IN TOWN...BRILLIANT"**MoS **ROY ORBISON STORY** **GUEST-STARRING P.J. PROBY** ALL SEAT

Awake to quakes ☐ Lost world ☐ Shooting star

Richter predictor



SCIENCE BRIEFING

Nigel Hawkes

PREDICTING earthquakes early enough to sound the alarm has long been a dream for geophysicists, and especially for those who live in California or Japan. A reliable forecasting method could be worth millions of dollars and save thousands of lives when the big one hits. So far, though, no dependable method has emerged.

Unless, that is, you believe the claims of a trio of Greek scientists who say that in the past nine years they have successfully predicted ten out of 11 quakes of magnitude 5.8 or greater that have hit Greece. After years of scepticism from foreign colleagues, the three are beginning to earn a measure of respect. This spring they successfully predicted three large earthquakes in a row — and even though Greece is a fairly quake-prone country, this was better than chance.

The method they use was discovered by Dr Panayiotis Varotsos of the University of Athens and colleagues in the mid-1980s, when they found that dry rocks under pressure produced a transient electrical current just before they fractured. Dr Varotsos reckoned that the same should happen before earthquakes, so the team set up wires several miles long connected to electrodes stuck into the ground and started looking for bursts of electrical current flowing along the wires.

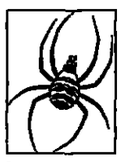
They duly found them, and began to issue earthquake warnings, most of which were ignored by other geophysicists. Dr Varotsos and his colleagues Doctors K. Alexopolous and K. Nomicos have since improved their apparatus to rule out spurious signals, and christened their method VAN, after the initial letters of their surnames. To judge by the opinions of some American geophysicists, VAN is beginning to motor.

The signals can be detected miles from the epicentre of the earthquake, and at more than one detector. The team makes predictions based on the number of signals, the location of the sites observing them, and the size of the currents detected. Of the 14 sizeable earthquakes that have occurred in Greece in the past nine years, Dr Varotsos told *Science* that three fell outside his network and he predicted ten of the other 11.

This sounds good, but there are still sceptics. Dr Stephen Park of the University of California says that the team has issued predictions for only about a tenth of the quakes that have occurred. But when they have sounded the alarm, they have been right 65 to 70 per cent of the time.

"Our results shown it's very unlikely this could be produced by random chance," he says. "To me, that says that this is a physical phenomenon worth studying." Now researchers in California and Japan are trying to reproduce the Greek results.

Creatures of the cave that time forgot



A LOST WORLD has been discovered in a Romanian cave cut off by rising water more than five million years ago. Many of the species of spiders, water scorpions, leeches and other creatures found there are unique. They have no eyes, little colour, and extra large antennae to find their way in the dark.

The cave is at Dobrogea, between the Danube and the Black Sea, and was originally found in 1986. But only recently has it been investigated by scientists from the University of Cincinnati , aided by a Romanian graduate student, Serban Sarbu.

The cave appears to be a self-sustaining system driven by bacteria that live on hydrogen sulphide, and act as food for the other species. The team has identified 50 invertebrates so far, of which 33 are unique to the cave, including a white pill bug.

The theory is that the creatures retreated to the cave millions of years ago in a dry spell, and were then trapped when the climate turned wet again. The first step will be to identify the bacteria, which carpet every surface in the cave.

Comet that is set to light up the skies



THE SPRING of 1997 could be enlivened by the brightest comet for decades, observations made recently by two Belfast astronomers suggest.

Dr Alan Fitzsimmons and Martin Cartwright, of Queen's University, Belfast, have shown that the comet Hale-Bopp is emitting quantities of the gas cyanogen, indicating that it is highly active. When first observed by American amateur astronomers Alan Hale and Thomas Bopp in July this year, the comet was exceptionally bright, although still very distant.

This meant that it was either large, or very active. The Belfast observations suggest the latter. Hale-Bopp is already emitting five times as much cyanogen as Halley's comet did when much closer to the Sun. If it sustains this performance it may well be visible with the naked eye when finally it makes its closest approach to the Sun in 1997.

The world is overdue a really dramatic comet. The test for Hale-Bopp will come next summer, when it warms up enough to release ice. If it is still bright then, it will be brighter still in 1997.



KOBAL

While computer hackers, like those in the movie *Sneakers*, can can crack older systems, modern-day encryption is almost impossible to solve

Search for a code the breakers can't crack

The fate of the world's financial markets is in the hands — and heads — of a group of mathematicians. **Dr Marcus du Sautoy** on the code-makers

ON JANUARY 2, the world's top mathematical cryptographers arrive in Cambridge for a six-month visit to the Newton Institute. Although they will be beavering away in esoteric corners of pure mathematics, their subject is computer secrets and coding theory. Their labours could well save the financial world from future chaos by defeating the gremlins put into the system by computer hackers.

Code-making earlier this century had an inherent weakness. Even the Enigma machine, used by the Germans in the Second World War to send coded messages to their U-boats in the Atlantic, had to have each day's encoding setting decided well in advance, giving rise to the possibility that the coding book could be captured by the Allies and the messages deciphered. But German security was good, and Britain had to rely instead on the mathematicians at Bletchley Park to break the codes and work out the settings.

> 'It took 20 years and 1,600 computers to solve the puzzle'

Today embassies, banks and companies all want to send secret messages to each other. But using a system similar to the Enigma machine would be too insecure given the number of people who would need access to the secret codes. And what if one bank wants to talk to another without a third listening in? Different secret settings would have to be agreed between each individual bank.

Just as mathematicians are good at breaking codes, they are equally accomplished at devising them. In 1977, Ronald Rivest, Adi Shamir and Leonard Adleman, all then at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, invented a system which eliminated the need for any prearranged secret settings. Now called the RSA cryptosystem, it relies on prime numbers.

A number is prime if it cannot be written as a product of two smaller numbers. Mathematicians regard prime numbers as the "fundamental particles" of our number system. We can build every number as a product of prime numbers: for example, 30 is 2 multiplied by 3 multiplied by 5. Today, the whole financial world is dependent on prime numbers.

The way it works is that, say, Abigail in bank A chooses two prime numbers, p and q. She multiplies these to come up with a third number, n, which is then published in a public codebook. If Ben from bank B wants to send a message to Abigail, he looks up her number (n) in the codebook, and then uses this number to perform a set of mathematical calculations on his message. To decode this calculation requires knowledge of the original prime numbers (p and q) which only Abigail knows.

Such a system has done away with the need for Ben and Abigail to meet and decide in advance their secret code. It also allows Ben or Chris at bank C to send a message to Abigail using the same number n so that neither can read the other's messages. Only Abigail knows the numbers p and q required to decode them.

It sounds very simple — and it is. But surely to crack this code all our modern-day mathematicians at GCHQ need to do is to find the two primes which multiplied together give the number n? Fortunately it is easier said than done.

Rivest, Shamir and Adleman were so confident of their system that they issued a challenge to any doubters. They published a number with 129 digits arrived at by multiplying two prime numbers together and asked anyone to tell them which two primes they had used. This challenge, which became known in the trade as RSA-129, eventually succumbed last year. It had taken 20 years and the combined forces of more than 1,600 computers.

Provided the two primes are big enough, it can take decades of computer time to discover them. We have the mathematics to produce large prime numbers but not the mathematics to crack, or factor, large numbers which are not prime.

Now the security of the financial world depends on mathematicians being able to do one half of the equation but not the other. It is not often that an application depends solely on what mathematicians cannot do.

But last year not only saw the cracking of RSA-129. A more significant breakthrough came from Peter Shor, who works at AT&T Bell Laboratories in America, which could have dramatic effects on cryptography. He showed that if a computer could be built to take advantage of quantum physics, it would crack such big numbers in seconds.

Such quantum computers would work by exploiting the fact that quantum physics allows a fundamental particle to be in two different places at the same time. Whereas today's computers must check each number in turn to see whether it divides the number we are trying to crack, a quantum computer can check every number simultaneously.

(Tom Stoppard was ahead of his time in his 1988 play *Hapgood* when he used quantum physics as a metaphor for the world of espionage.)

Before you rush to withdraw your savings to avoid computer fraud, take heart that quantum computers exist at the moment only in the minds of theoretical physicists. But this does not mean they will not become a reality. Serious research is being done in the hope of producing the first quantum computer.

So the race is on for mathematicians to produce even better codes before the arrival of the quantum hacker.

Just as the Allies relied on mathematicians at Bletchley to save us from the German U-boats, so today the world's financial community may have reason to be grateful to the obscure men and women gathering in Cambridge after Christmas.

● *The author is a Royal Society University Research Fellow at the Department of Pure Mathematics in Cambridge.*

NOTICE TO INVESTORS

INTEREST RATES EFFECTIVE FROM 11th DECEMBER 1995

PREMIUM 100 Annual Interest	GROSS RATE%	NET RATE %	GROSS C.A.R.%*
£100,000+	6.10	4.58	-
£50,000+	5.80	4.35	-
£25,000+	5.40	4.05	-
£10,000+	5.00	3.75	-
£5,000+	4.70	3.53	-
Monthly Interest			
£100,000+	5.94	4.46	6.10
£50,000+	5.65	4.24	5.80
£25,000+	5.27	3.95	5.40
£10,000+	4.89	3.67	5.00
£5,000+	4.60	3.45	4.70
PREMIUM ACCESS† Annual Interest	GROSS RATE%	NET RATE %	GROSS C.A.R.%*
£50,000+	4.50	3.38	-
£25,000+	4.25	3.19	-
£10,000+	4.00	3.00	-
£5,000+	3.75	2.81	-
£2,500+	3.50	2.63	-
£500+	3.25	2.44	-
£1+	0.50	0.38	-

CLOSED ISSUES

PREMIUM 60	GROSS RATE%	NET RATE %	GROSS C.A.R.%*
Annual Interest			
£50,000+	4.50	3.38	-
£25,000+	4.25	3.19	-
£10,000+	4.00	3.00	-
£5,000+	3.75	2.81	-
£2,500+	3.50	2.63	-
£500+	3.25	2.44	-
£1+	0.50	0.38	-
PREMIUM 60 INCOME Monthly Interest			
£100,000+	5.32	3.99	5.45
£50,000+	5.03	3.77	5.15
£25,000+	4.46	3.35	4.55
£10,000+	4.27	3.20	4.35
£5,000+	4.02	3.02	4.10
£2,500+	3.64	2.73	3.70
SUPERSHARE PLUS			
Annual Interest			
£30,000+	3.20	2.40	-
£10,000+	2.98	2.31	-
£5,000+	2.70	2.03	-
£500+	2.20	1.65	-
£1+	0.50	0.38	-
Monthly Interest			
£30,000+	3.15	2.36	3.20
£10,000+	2.91	2.18	2.95
£5,000+	2.67	2.00	2.70
£2,000+	2.18	1.64	2.20
PREMIUM INCOME			
Monthly Interest			
£25,000+	4.30	3.23	-
£10,000+	3.80	2.85	-
£5,000+	3.30	2.48	-

CAPITAL PLUS SPECIAL ISSUE	GROSS RATE%	NET RATE %
Annual Interest		
£25,000+	3.72	2.79
£10,000+	3.18	2.39
CAPITAL PLUS MONTHLY Monthly Interest	2.25	1.69
CAPITAL PLUS Annual Interest	2.26	1.69
CHAMPION BOND (2nd ISSUE) Half Yearly/Monthly Interest	0.72	0.54
CHAMPION BOND (3rd ISSUE) Annual Interest	2.13	1.59
FLEXIBLE FUND Half Yearly Interest		
£25,000+	1.00	0.75
£1+	0.50	0.38
THRIFTY SAVERS Annual Interest	0.50	0.38
ORDINARY SHARE Half Yearly Interest	0.50	0.38

MORTGAGE RATES

The basic rate of interest charged on existing mortgages for owner occupiers will be 7.74% from 1st January 1996.
The investment rates for TESSA first and second issues, (both no longer available to new investors) and A/C deposit accounts are also reduced from 1st January 1996 by 0.28% due to their link to our mortgage base rate.
In addition, with effect from 1st January 1996, the charges made on mortgage accounts will change. The new charges are; for consents to sale of part security (including scaling) £50, transfer of mortgage into different names (including scaling) £50, borrower choosing to arrange own buildings insurance £25.

CHESHIRE BUILDING SOCIETY

CHIEF OFFICE: CASTLE STREET, MACCLESFIELD, CHESHIRE SK11 6AF. TELEPHONE (01625) 501400

Annual interest is payable on 31st December and half yearly interest on 30th June and 31st December. Interest will be paid net of income tax (charged at 25%, which may be reclaimed by non taxpayers) or, subject to the required certification can be paid gross. Rates are variable. *Compounded annual rate assuming funds are re-invested at the quoted rate. †Premium International, Club Class, Client Deposit Account and Tax-exempt Premium Access all pay the same rate as for Premium Access. Member of the Building Societies Association and Investors Protection Scheme and the Building Societies Ombudsman Scheme. Assets exceed £1·4 billion.

11/12/95

HOW WOULD YOU FIND OUT ABOUT EDUCATION POLICY WITHOUT THE TES?



BUY YOUR OWN COPY AT NEWSAGENTS ♦ FRIDAY

TES

THE TIMES EDUCATIONAL SUPPLEMENT

Is your child's idea of good food lacking a few essentials?

Haliborange AC&D for children and Multivitamins plus calcium and iron for teenagers are specially formulated to help you ensure that youngsters stay healthy. For looks, growth and vitality, a Haliborange a day can help put back what your child's diet may lack.



هكذا من الأصل

Meningitis. A mother's story

Katharine Hadley's daughter Angelica was just four and a half years old when she complained of a headache. Just three days later she was dead, a victim of meningitis

"GIRLS don't like skirts with bits between their legs. That's trousers," said my four-and-a-half-year-old daughter Angelica. She was complaining about her new school uniform that had a divided skirt. "I want a skirt, Mummy."

For the first half of the autumn term, her first term at "big" school, Angel insisted on wearing both legs in one side, the other bit sticking out oddly. "Okay, darling," I said, putting on the kettle. It was Saturday morning and we were having an intimate sort of chat about life, while my husband and her two older brothers did the shopping. "I'll just cut the middle bit out."

She chuckled and got down on the floor to show me how she was learning to swim. "You go like this." She did the breaststroke movement, face down.

"Well I think you look like a little blonde frog," I told her. We laughed and she got up. "Mummy," she said, "I've got a headache." A small hand went to the side of her head. And then she was sick.

For the first few hours it seemed to be nothing. The Panadol Elixir apparently did its work — "strawberry medicine", as she called it. I bundled her up in a duvet and sat in an armchair with her cuddled in my arms, watching television.

But it came back — and worse. Three days later Angelica was brain dead with meningitis. She died on October 31, All Souls' Eve, five years ago, and today I am still amazed that my lovely darling is dead and has been gone for longer now than she lived. Her small body is still imprinted along my spine, the curves of her in my hands, her laughter and her blue eyes with the long, dark lashes, still in my ears and eyes.

I was in such shock and despair that I thought I must die, too. It was as if we had been walking in a dark wood and somehow I had lost hold of my daughter's hand and couldn't find her again.

Those days are crowded with appalling memories: pleading with doctors, who thought I was an over-anxious mother, just to take another look; pleading with the hospital, a large London teaching establishment, for a bed, and pointing to the telltale "necklace" of lurid marks on her collarbone and then recognising in the consultant's eyes the panic of a doctor with a dying child on his hands, slipping too fast for him to treat.

I blame no one for her death, except, perhaps, myself. Meningitis is often very hard to diagnose and when medical experts tell you your child is not suffering from it, the desire to believe them is overwhelming. But a mother knows when her child is very sick, when it's something out of the ordinary. If I had my chance again, of course I would insist, throw a tantrum. But obediently, I waited.

The reality is that meningitis is a lottery. It can kill very fast, in spite of the best medical attention. Or you hit lucky. Every parent should understand that any doctor will do his damndest to save a child, but they don't have foolproof powers. Nevertheless, the earlier you get to the experts, the greater your chance, and I would say to any mother today who is worried about her child, do panic.

In hospital I sat holding on to the side of her bed in an isolation room, praying while my husband leant, grey-faced, against the wall. She had a full-time nurse, a lovely black girl, who alternately stroked Angelica and then me, but whose eyes were grave. I bent over my child, kissed her hand and whispered: "How do you feel little Angel?" And from far away her voice came: "I don't know." Then, seeing my agony, she blew me a kiss. In her terrible travail, my dying child made this gesture of comfort to me. For a moment, it was she mothering her mother's grief.

Soon after, she lost consciousness, and as the staff were preparing to move her to intensive care, Angelica stopped breathing on the ward. By the time she got to a bed in the unit she was brain dead.

The consultant said he would keep her on a life-support machine for a short time, but then we must make our decision to switch it off. And we trailed sadly away into the night, back home, to tell her brothers, to tell the world of her passing. In those few minutes of the journey, before the fatal words must be spoken, it seemed as if the dark universe stood still, and somehow, that if we simply never said "Angelica is dead", perhaps it wouldn't be true.

Back at the house, Hugh and Thomas, aged nine and 12, were being cared for by relatives, sitting in the kitchen watching television and the older boy playing computer games. Thomas stubbornly continued to play, reluctant to hear what his child's heart already knew. Later he told me that the day before, he had sat in bed and read all night by torchlight, keeping watch for his sister.

> In her travail, she made a last gesture to comfort me

They turned their heads away, bewildered. How could the adult world, which says everything will be all right, have let this happen? If she was on a machine and breathing, surely she was alive and it would be murder to switch it off, said the littler boy, desperate for a way round.

I tried to reassure them, but they knew I was lying. Hugh snapped: "Don't talk about God. She doesn't want to be with Him, she wants to be with me."

We took Angelica off the life-support machine ourselves. I sat and held her in my arms as I had done so often before. A nurse had tied her hair into a careful plait: there was pink nail varnish on her small feet which I had painted for fun just a few days ago. She didn't breathe, but her little heart was still beating. We must have made a sad trio, me cradling the child and my husband kneeling with his hand on his daughter's fluttering heart.

A priest read the 23rd Psalm for Angelica and for us. "The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters. He restoreth my soul . . . yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death. I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff, they comfort me . . ."

But the lovely words weren't true. I was in utter terror and I profoundly feared evil. Quite a few children had died of meningitis that autumn, and in my madness I thought perhaps the Devil had come, walking through the land, taking this one and that one. Taking my daughter.

Then we had to leave her there. It seemed extraordinary to walk away. At the lift I was almost physically hit by a tremendously powerful, angry force, as if the child had come running after and was raging at me, and I screamed.

And so began the dreary business of living with grief. At first it seemed impossible, but as time passed I learnt to manage my grief. The boys had grown up perfectly stable, although I think they are gentler with people now because of their sister's death.

While I still think of Angelica every day, I have accepted her passing. Other people helped and, of course, so did the need to create a sane, positive environment for the boys. Our vicar prayed and talked gently to us of mortality. I spent a lot of time in the church, standing where her coffin had rested at the funeral, trying to get close to her and find comfort in God.

At first there was the practical business of picking up Angelica's things; knickers under the sofa, socks and hairbands down the sides of chairs. A very good social worker came to see me, sensibly picked for the job because she, too, had lost a child. We talked about Angel's room and she helped me to realise I must clear it. I repainted and packed away her things in sad black plastic bags, which the social worker took away for living children. What I kept I put away in the attic. I knew that to preserve her room as an icon would prevent us from moving forward.

I went to a counsellor who was nice, but unfortunately displayed what seemed like 150 photographs of her four healthy children on every available desk and cabinet top. A Jungian, she advised me to hug the little girl who was the inner me, and since there was only one little girl I wanted to hug, I thought the advice inappropriate. Instead, I relied on friends and — in particular — the elderly.

My 80-year-old headmistress roused herself from infirmity to care for an old pupil in trouble and telephoned, the voice booming down the years. "Don't listen to any classical music, or any music at all for at least a year," she said. "It will only upset you more." When I was 17 I had valued her advice often above that of my parents. Now, once more, I gratefully followed her direction.

A favourite aunt suggested we drive as little as possible for the first three months. When my uncle died, she told me, she found herself going round and round a roundabout, lost in thought, a danger to herself and others. Both my husband and I found that the mind wanders at the wheel and somehow grief makes the body's reactions less co-ordinated.

A friend's mother who had lost a son advised against sleeping pills; they can add to depression. Stick to alcohol, she said, and we did. She also told us to keep warm, because shock makes you tremble with an unusually strong reaction to the cold. So Adrian, the boys and I sat each night watching television bundled under the children's duvets, deriving comfort from the warmth and closeness of each other's bodies.

We were lucky to live in a good, solid south London community. They had all known Angelica and were devastated by her death. The Turkish-Cypriot cleaners stroked my hands and feet in the back of the shop, the women murmuring comfort. In the local Greek-Cypriot restaurant, when my husband cried, kind waiters put a bottle in front of us, gave us a shadowy corner table and refused to be paid.

Afraid that Angelica would be frightened by her sudden death, I often talked to her aloud when I was out alone. "Mummy loves you. It's all right my baby." Neighbours kindly left me alone if they saw me pass, weeping.

The warmth of people made all the difference. Friends invited us to dinner and introduced us to others whose children had died. It wasn't at all macabre. I was grateful to discover what is almost an underground network of such people. The death of a child is such a taboo that, before it happened to us, I had no idea it was as relatively common as it is. I was eager to talk and to hear their stories. It assuaged the guilt I felt that we had let our child die and were, therefore, careless parents.



Angelica: her parents were devastated when they had to take the terrible decision to switch off the life-support

Of course we changed. To begin with sudden quarrels and rage flashed between Adrian and me — as the undertaker who arranged Angelica's funeral free, because he, too, had lost a daughter, warned us it would. Grief can and does split many couples apart. We grew to understand this and were temperate with each other.

I became acutely sensitive to the plight of children in need. And one day I raised the subject of adoption. Better to do for another child what we could not do for Angelica.

Now this is an absolute humdinger for social workers. Rightly, they fear that some parents will make the new child a substitute for the dead one. But, in our case, we were learning to manage our grief. It accompanied us rather than dominated our lives.

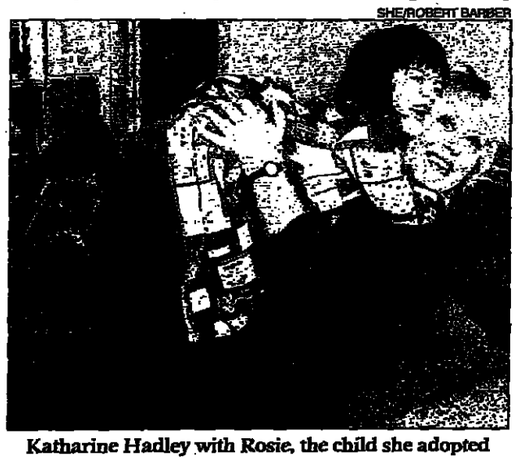
And that's how our daughter Rosie came to join the family. She was born in Guatemala and as we flew there to get her, Angelica was so present in our hearts that Adrian murmured: "I bet Anglica knows Rosie." And maybe she does.

Rosie is simply my fourth child. We talk of Angelica, of course. Her photo is in the house. Rosie calls her "My Angelica". In her baby way she understands that Angel is her big sister, but that she is gone. I still think of Angelica each day and sometimes talk soothingly to her. She would be nine now, still my lovely daughter. But my daughter who is dead. Rosie's brothers delight in her. Theirs is an uncomplicated, easy acceptance. The social workers, always supportive and happy with the way things turned out, have drifted away.

I am watching Rosie in our snowy garden, chuckling as she chases the cat. I think of Angelica and know that if she was here she would be telling Rosie to leave the cat *alone*. I pick up Rosie and tickle her and tell her to leave the cat *alone*.

The loss of a child is such a reversal of the natural order of things but, like every other tragedy, you can weather it and learn to manage. Rosie is not a solution. She happened because circumstances in our lives brought about an enormous upheaval. Change brought change.

Nothing turns out the way you plan. You must just do your best. Rosie is a vote for life and Angelica would have loved her little sister. And probably does.



SHE/ROBERT BARBER

Katharine Hadley with Rosie, the child she adopted

A dynasty that lives for film

Joanna Pitman meets the Haas family

THERE is only one topic of conversation in the Haas household. Philip and Belinda and their two daughters talk film-making from breakfast until bed.

From the outside, at least, the Haas film dynasty appears to be doing well. Their latest film, *Angels and Insects*, an adaptation of A.S. Byatt's novella *Morpho Eugenia*, has just gone on general release.

Between them, Philip and Belinda have sewn up the film's production, direction, editing, screenplay, casting and location work. And the Haases are in on the acting, too, with their two daughters, aged five and two, playing their first cameo roles in the film.

"This is our second big feature film, and it is something that has obsessed us all for the past year and a half. We talked about it constantly. It became almost like a cancer," says Philip.

"Tenacious" does not do justice to their determination. "We spent three months looking for a location. We did the casting ourselves, we found the extras, searched for the props, researched and arranged for the special effects."

Fortunately they are good at self-parody, too. Philip is from San Francisco and is the type who can get Pretty Intense about things. Belinda comes from Belfast and has the knack of deflating tension with a razor-sharp wit.

"It's not as if we're completely harmonious," says Belinda. "We are both like greyhounds on a scent and we won't stop until we've done what we want in the way we want to."

Of course harmoniously creative collaboration is one thing when both are at home, working together at leisure on a script, for example. But on set and under pressure when Belinda is wearing the production hat, Philip the director's hat, and occasionally overlapping roles, harmony is sometimes elusive. "Our advantage is that we may fight but we have to be absolutely honest with each other," says Belinda.

"Yes, I suppose if Belinda weren't my wife," says Philip, "I might have sacked her a million times or she might have walked out a million times." They married six years ago, went away on honeymoon but haven't taken a break of more than three consecutive days since — the source of some disharmony.

"The obsession went so far that Philip got annoyed when I took the morning off on the day I had my first baby and failed to finish my editing," says Belinda. "I was back in the editing suite a week later with a screaming baby strapped to my stomach." No wonder the infant Haas girls have filmic ambition in their blood.

People in developing countries depend on animals. SPANA helps them.

Society for the Protection of Animals Abroad
15 Buckingham Gate
London
SW1 6LB
Reg Charity 209015
SPANA PROTECTS ANIMALS ABROAD

SEND A BABY BOX TO BOSNIA THIS CHRISTMAS FOR ONLY £30

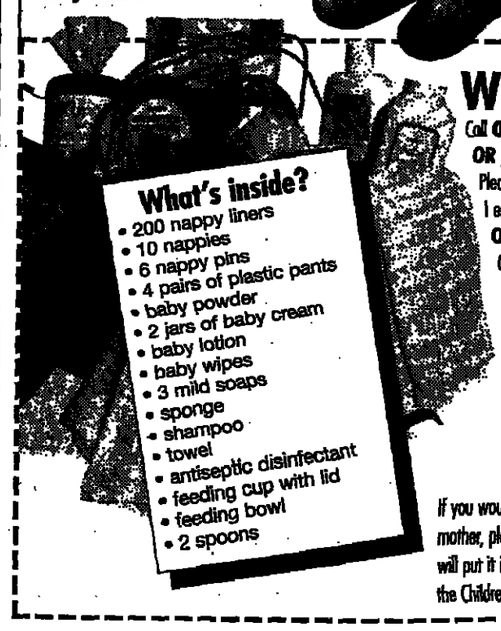
Disinfectant, nappies, washing materials – not what you'd think of giving someone for Christmas. But for a desperate mother in Bosnia trying to keep her child safe from infection, the basic essentials inside one of our baby boxes would mean the world.

It would also mean that someone somewhere is thinking of her, and her efforts to protect her child.

Feed the Children has delivered baby boxes full of essential items directly into the hands of 11,000 mothers in Bosnia – many of whom will be sheltering in freezing schools, factories, and bombed-out houses this winter.

Please, if you possibly can, send a baby box to Bosnia this Christmas – **and help a mother keep her baby safe.**





What's inside?
- 200 nappy liners
- 10 nappies
- 6 nappy pins
- 4 pairs of plastic pants
- baby powder
- 2 jars of baby cream
- baby lotion
- baby wipes
- 3 mild soaps
- sponge
- shampoo
- towel
- antiseptic disinfectant
- feeding cup with lid
- feeding bowl
- 2 spoons

With love from a friend...

Call **0990 600610** now to tell us how many baby boxes you would like to send.

OR please complete and return this form.

Please send _____ baby box(es) at £30 each on my behalf.

I enclose a cheque for £_____ (total amount) made payable to Feed the Children

OR Please debit £_____ from my ☐ Visa ☐ Access ☐ Switch

Card number ☐☐☐☐ ☐☐☐☐ ☐☐☐☐ ☐☐☐☐

Last three digits of Switch card no. ☐☐☐ Switch issue no. ☐☐

403

Expiry date / Signature

Name (caps)

Address

Postcode Telephone

If you would like to send a message to a Bosnian mother, please send it with your donation and we will put it in your baby box. **Please send to:** Feed the Children, Dept 403, FREEPOST, Reading, RG1 1BR.

FEED THE CHILDREN
TAKING THE AID DIRECT
Registered charity no. 803736.

Matthew Parris



■ Looking down on the Commons from the gallery is a dismal sight: there's so much to look down upon

The British peerage stopped "breeding for brains" about 150 years ago (says William Rees-Mogg) "and started to breed for looks". Though their lordships have some way to go before they can claim complete success, he has a point. Gazing down from the gallery and imagining our assembly of mostly elderly peers as they might have looked 30 years ago, we see a collection not strikingly *less* handsome than their countrymen.

You cannot say that of the Commons. Fleur Adcock's poem about John Prescott notwithstanding, your average male MP is a most unlikely object for romantic fantasy. And Prescott is one of the better specimens.

During the last Labour leadership contest, I took a straw poll of 11 female members of the Commons Press Gallery. Two said they could fancy Tony Blair, four preferred Prescott, and five were repelled by both. There were two unsolicited mentions of Gordon Brown.

These three are among the cream of a meagre crop. How many of the 600-odd male MPs, raging in age from late twenties to late seventies, are even passably good-looking? I defy you to find 600 bus conductors, dentists or farmers from whose ranks it would be quite so difficult to find anyone to do so much as model a woolly sweater for a *Woman's Own* knitting pattern, still less melt a lady's heart. If power *is* an aphrodisiac, that's lucky for our male MPs: few would otherwise pass the quality-control bouncers outside a provincial nightclub, let alone feature in Fleur Adcock's dreams. Your columnist, a former MP and no oil-painting, does not exclude himself from these comments. Let's be blunt. Why are ugly men drawn to politics?

Come to that, why are so *many politicians, past and present,* unable to pronounce their Rs? It is not just Michael Heseltine, Roy Jenkins, Norman Fowler, Roy Hattersley, Albert Booth, Cyril . . .

But stop! Roy, Norman, Albert, Cyril, Cecil, Stan, Archie, Reg . . . why do so many politicians have silly names? Where but at Westminster could you call out "Reg!" in a crowded room and receive a dozen responses?

We move now to a remark which is not meant to be unkind, merely factual. *There are more fat MPs* than national statistics suggest there should be. I do not mean the middle-aged podginess which comes with a sedentary job and too many dinners: I mean the sort of boy who was called "Piggy" at school and mercilessly teased. Dozens find their way into politics.

Nor is unkindness intended by my next observation: politicians have terrible skin. Even a cursory inspection of the complexions of male MPs reveals a score who were ravaged by acne in youth. In some cases the results are pitiful, yet these men have gone on to secure tens of thousands of votes from their compatriots.

And now to a delicate subject, which will probably have me letter-bombed by OutRage! for bracketing it with acne, obesity and speech-impediment. I am sure the percentage of male MPs who are bisexual or gay is greater than the national average. This is particularly true of Tories. We are looking at a range of 7-10 per cent in the Parliamentary Conservative Party and up to 15 per cent of Liberal Democrat parliamentary *candidates*, against a national average (I reckon) of 4-6 per cent. In younger days, I found there were two types of gay men in London: the attractive ones, who had fun, and the unattractive ones, who went into politics.

Why, then, have so many MPs been dealt, in youth, some kind of a duff hand by fate? Your laser-like intellects have shot ahead to my conclusion. Men enter politics, not to help mankind, but to be revenged on it.

> Politicians want not so much to help mankind as to take revenge upon it

Look down on that lowing, gibbering, charcoaled, pinstriped mass of atypical humanity they call the "floor of the House" (my copy-taker first wrote "flaw" — a Freudian slip?), de-focus from their middle-aged faces and disengage from what they are actually saying, and you have before you a school playground. But a most unusual one. This is the playground of all the boys who were mobbed in the playground. This is the sports day of all the boys whose mums wrote notes asking for them to be excused sports. This is the school assembly of all the boys who, 30 years ago, locked themselves in the lavatories and sobbed "They mock me now, but one day, I'll show them". Indeed, those words all but paraphrase the bitter outburst of Disraeli's maiden speech.

The hear-hears that punctuate a well-judged parliamentary performance, the clunking car doors of the ministerial limousine into which our up-and-coming MP climbs, the polite applause that greeted the "few words" from the local MP over canapés in the constituencies this weekend, the clink of glasses, the announcing of raffle prizewinners . . . these are really a kind of extended post-adolescent therapy for 600 survivors of adolescent torture.

By gaining control over others' fates, we take revenge on fate itself. We said we'd show them, and we have. They are laughing on the other side of their faces now. Oh yes.

Philip Lawrence was a modern martyr who died defending values we have brushed aside

The headmaster's lesson for us all

Philip Lawrence gave an interview to Danny Connolley, a local journalist, on the day he was stabbed to death. It has been widely reprinted, but some of the points he made are so important, and so strongly supported by his giving *his life for his beliefs, that they* challenge the whole of our modern complacency. Some of us would accept them but not act on them; others, including leading figures in our culture, would reject them, though they might not say so today or for the next few days. Last week, before Philip Lawrence was killed, they would *have sneered at such simple moral* beliefs, and perhaps at him too.

"I am giving parents what they want. Christian values in their children. We believe there is a difference between right and wrong. There is no relativist position. There is forgiveness, but there is *wrong*. And that is something that parents of whatever religious background are buying into. It's what their children need."

In the immediate aftermath of his death in action, for that is what it was, many people who do not agree with that at all will let it pass. They will think that he was a good man, and a good headmaster, that he died bravely, that it is a difficult business running an inner-city comprehensive, that racial gangs are a terrible thing. But they will not really accept what he told Danny Connolley; they do not believe that "there is no relativist position. There is forgiveness, but there is *wrong*".

Ten days ago we had a debate in the House of Lords about the Lord Chancellor's new Divorce Bill, to which we gave its second reading. One peeress, Lady Young, did speak in Philip Lawrence's terms. She made a very powerful criticism of the Bill from the point of view that marriage is an absolute commitment, that *people who break that commitment* are doing wrong, and that making the "no fault" rule universal in divorce would destroy the institution of marriage itself.

Three Anglican bishops spoke in *the debate, including Lord Habgood,* the retired Archbishop of York. None of them gave the direct message of Lady Young's speech, or even appeared to sympathise with it. The Archbishop of Canterbury has recently had to rebuke those Anglicans who are afraid of the concept of sin, who regard cohabitation as the moral equivalent of marriage. The Church of England is now absolutely riddled with relativism, and there is too much of it in the Roman Catholic Church as well, despite the Pope. Philip Lawrence would not have found that all other Catholics agreed with him. Roman Catholics can probably be grateful for the providence which for four and a half centuries has kept our bishops out of the House of Lords, though Cardinal Manning might have made a useful contribution to their lordships' debates.

In the week that Philip Lawrence was murdered in Maida Vale, three other men were killed, in Essex. Theirs too appears to have been a gang murder. Patrick Tate, Tony Tucker and Craig Rolfe were found shot in a Land Rover at Whitehouse Farm in the Essex flatlands when the farmer went out to feed his pheasants. They were all three professional criminals, who ran a drug distribu*tion business in Basildon. They had* all served long prison sentences, and committed most violent assaults. Whether they had any responsibility for the particular Ecstasy tablet that killed Leah Betts no one can say, but *that tablet was bought in a Basildon* nightclub, and they were distributors in the Basildon drugs trade.

The contrast between the lives of Patrick Tate, Tony Tucker and Craig Rolfe on the one hand, and of Philip Lawrence on the other is so obvious that hardly anyone would argue the relativist case, which would minimise the difference between them. Philip

William Rees-Mogg

Lawrence had given new discipline and new hope to a rundown school. Hundreds of schoolchildren will lead better and happier lives, and will pass on better lives to their children, because of his work. His was a life of positive virtue; he was making the best possible use of his own opportunities. The other three men who were killed had been leading wicked lives, worse in their horror than most of us can imagine. Children were being ruined by their trade: some, like Leah Betts, died of it.

None of us, or very few, would wish to apply the "no fault" rule to such an obvious distinction between virtue and vice, between good and evil. Whether or not a young man and young woman living together *should be described as "living in sin"*, Patrick Tate and his partners were most certainly living in sin. They may indeed have had abusive fathers or deprived childhoods; probably they did, though we do not know. Undoubtedly there are some sociological explanations for the way they grew up. But we are not afraid to say that what they did with their lives was sinful, that it is sinful to smash people's heads in for the purpose of spreading terror, and sinful to sell drugs which will distort the lives of young people and kill some of them. They may or may not have been taught right from wrong; if they had been, they chose what was wrong. Without that clarity of choice, nothing makes sense.

Philip Lawrence believed that children deserve to be taught Christian values, though he was entirely ecumenical in his attitude to other religions, and he thought that children were entitled to be taught right from wrong. But he believed something more than that, and in his own life he acted on it. He thought that *wrong should be confronted; he was* prepared to fight the good fight. He was proud of the fact that "yobbos" — and he did not hesitate to use that word — called him "*the hard man of Maida Vale*". *He found himself in the* middle of a battle between order and disorder, and he was prepared to fight for order. It may be a great pity that headmasters have to fight that *battle, though they all do,* even in the most celebrated and selective schools. It was a battle from which he did not flinch, and in the end he died in it.

It is, however, a battle from which the main spokesmen of modern Britain do flinch. Moral relativism is not the creed of the poor and dispossessed but of the rich and powerful. It is *the creed of the leaders of our society.* Perhaps the House of Lords does not matter much, but it still retains a certain aura. I cannot remember an occasion on which I have voted on a moral issue, and I do not vote very often, in which I have not been in a minority. Moral relativism is the dominant creed of the life peers, of *the former* vice-chancellors, the former ministers, the bishops, even many of the judges. The House of Lords reflects the philosophers who were teaching in the universities of a generation ago. *Too many* peers are at least figuratively the children of Freddie Ayer.

If one wants a morally defined vote, one must usually look to the wilder shores of the hereditary aristocracy, to those who were were not so highly educated as to suppose that there is no such thing as sin or to get into one of the new universities of the 1960s. Modern relativism is the spongiform creed of the British Establishment, of modern government, of modern education, of modern broadcasting (if you doubt that, watch Channel 4), of the whole moral consciousness of present-day Britain. No one can be entirely free of it; we read it in every newspaper, we hear it in every broadcast, it permeates our system of ideas. Yet in the end it is a creed of death, whether it is the death of Leah Betts, killed by an Ecstasy tablet, or of Philip Lawrence, *murdered outside his school, defending* one of his pupils.

Five pillars of wisdom

Anthony Howard asks who would be the heavyweights in a Blair administration



Margaret Thatcher once said to Boris Yeltsin that with half-a-dozen powerful supporters — or, as she characteristically put it, "six people pulling on the same oar" — a democratic leader could achieve anything. Of course, in the endgame of her own premiership, she discovered she did not enjoy that sort of support even within her Cabinet.

But what of Tony Blair? Where is he going to find the Atlas-like figures *who upheld the Labour Government* in good times and bad 50 years ago? True, in 1945 Clement Attlee had only four such men: Ernest Bevin, Herbert Morrison, Stafford Cripps and Hugh Dalton. The last was the first to slip on a banana-skin, in 1947, and when Cripps and Bevin successively fell ill in 1950-51, the Attlee Government was virtually over.

Is there anyone, though, on Labour's front bench today who measures up to their original stature? The answer is not easy (though the question *may be unfair, since Bevin,* Morrison, Cripps and Dalton had all been members of Churchill's wartime Coalition Government). Experience is the one card that Tony Blair *will not be able to play at the next* election. Give or take a former undersecretary or two, there is not a single member of his team who has known what it is to play even a minor role in a Whitehall department. (Apologies may be due here to John Morris, the Opposition's legal affairs spokesman and for five years Secretary of State for Wales in the last Labour Cabinet — though no one, I fancy, envisages him playing a seminal role in any future Blair administration.)

For his four or five heavyweights, Labour's young leader will have to look to those whose reputations have been made solely in Opposition. Does that matter? With its back to the wall, *the Tory party will no doubt do its* best at the election to turn Labour's inexperience into "a gamble too far". But given the lack of esteem in which the present Government is held, *it seems to me unlikely to make much* headway here. Yet what matters is whether Mr Blair will have supporters with the capacity and ability that any prime minister needs.

The awkward fact is that office has a way of finding out the weaknesses of even the most attractive and popular of Opposition politicians. In the 1950s and early 1960s Tony Greenwood — an accomplished performer on television — presented the acceptable face of the Labour Party. He was regularly elected to the constituency section of the National Executive Committee, and, at least until he threatened to stand against Hugh Gaitskell for the leadership in 1960, *he did consistently well in the* annual Shadow Cabinet elections. However, when Harold Wilson appointed him to his Cabinet in October 1964, he was an *unmitigated disaster, whom the Prime Minister had vainly* to try to shunt off into the general secretaryship of the party in 1968.

There are, admittedly, very few old lags like him around today — *and the nearest contemporary equiv*alent, Jack Cunningham, was last autumn voted off the Shadow Cabinet. Two other former under-secretaries from the 1974-79 period — Michael Meacher and Joan Lestor — are, one suspects, equally unlikely to find their names at the top of any Cabinet list after a Labour victory.

So where is Mr Blair to find his "Big Five"? No one who knows anything of Tony Blair's outlook and attitude can doubt for one moment that Gordon Brown will be the second figure in any government that he forms. The two men are bound together by long ties of friendship and mutual support.

Of course, that in itself poses a problem. John Prescott is, if only at the third time of asking, the elected deputy leader of the party. My own view of Mr Prescott is quite unequivocal: he is one of the Labour Party's prime electoral assets and is destined to play a crucial role in any future Labour government. But I doubt whether that role can best be discharged by his being a kind of fifth wheel on the coach as deputy prime minister. That way, it seems to me, trouble is sure to lie — if not with No 10, then inevitably with other Cabinet colleagues. The Home Office, with all its variegated responsibilities and demands, strikes me as a much safer berth for Mr Prescott (even if it makes Jack Straw a broken reed).

Two down, therefore, and three to go. In many ways — whether the Labour majority turns out to be large or small — *the most important post in* the next Parliament will belong to the Leader of the House. No prizes for guessing to whom that should go. With a year (and probably more) under his belt as Opposition Chief Whip, Donald Dewar is the obvious candidate. He could easily emerge as a parliamentary manager in the Herbert Morrison mould.

The fourth pillar of a Blair administration also chooses himself. Elected to the Commons in 1974, nine years before his leader, Robin Cook has always suffered from being seen as kingmaker rather than king. Given his views on the economy and on proportional representation — to say nothing of his personal incom*patibility with Gordon Brown* — the shrewd place for Mr Blair to put him would be the department he now shadows, the Foreign Office.

So we come to the last and in some respects most difficult choice for Blair's Big Five. Assuming that there will be something approaching 80 women Labour MPs in the next House of Commons, it ought be a woman. Who, though, could measure up? There are two women of adequately strong personalities on the current Opposition front bench: Mo Mowlam (the safe choice) and Clare Short (the adventurous one).

What counted with Bevin, Morrison, Cripps and Dalton was that each had the ability to make an impact on the public. The next Labour Cabinet should contain at the top at least one woman capable of doing the same. Neither Margaret Beckett nor Harriet Harman nor Ann Taylor will ever do that — but one of the other two (who are blessed with the potential star quality of a Barbara Castle) just might. At any rate, since the Tories have already produced a woman Prime Minister, it is worth a try. And the higher the odds, probably the shrewder the gamble.

Blood is up

TONY BLAIR has a right royal fight on his hands. The Tories in his Sedgefield constituency have chosen a 28-year-old woman with a monarch's blood in her veins to fight him at the next election.

Elizabeth Noel was selected from a shortlist of three by the local party on Saturday, and new Labour finds itself up against a member of one of the country's oldest families. A niece of the Earl of Gainsborough, Noel can trace her ancestry to the 11th century, and is a direct descendant of William IV, through his illegitimate daughter Elizabeth FitzClarence.

Her father, the Hon Gerard Noel, was Editor of *The Catholic Herald* for many years, and she wants to make her faith play a part in her campaigning.

Elizabeth was educated at the convent school St Mary's, Ascot, and then at Oxford, before working for 2½ years in the psychology department at Wormwood Scrubs. Now she is writing a book about penal reform.

Despite her love of designer *outfits, she has even been described* by one commentator as "one of the Prime Minister's most terrifying Amazons". If she fails to overturn Blair's majority of 14,859, there will be easier seats to win.

"Tony Blair is impressive and likeable, but he is the only impressive and likeable thing about Labour." she says feistily. "I want a very dynamic campaign, and if there are things in Blair's backyard that contrast with what he says I will try to embarrass him. I don't want a slanging match. I'm looking forward to giving Cherie the sign of peace in church. Otherwise it's war."



Noel: but no gift

● *Salman Rushdie has developed a black sense of humour about the fatwa which still hangs over him. In an interview in* Vanity Fair, *he says his idea of perfect happiness is "life without policemen", and what he most dislikes about his appearance is "its infrequency". Happily, those who know him as a regular on the party circuit know this is not quite true.*

Looking better

HER SERENE luminiscence, *Dame Barbara Cartland, is on* magic mushrooms. The romantic novelist, who at 94 struggles to read a word of her 635 romantic books, is trying pills made from fungi by the Dalai Lama's Tibetan monks in a bid to save her failing eyesight.

"I've been told it's great for the eyes. The pills taste disgusting, but I sweeten them with sugar and honey." They may be working. "My sight is returning fast in one eye," she says.

● *The new Principal of Somerville College, Oxford, who will replace Mrs Catherine Hughes next autumn, is Dr Fiona Caldicott, the first woman President of the Royal College of Psychiatrists and a wine buff who eases the horror of medical conferences abroad by escaping on wine-hunts. "It somehow makes those psychiatric trips more pleasurable", she says.*

On the side

WITH America's presidential race officially under way, Bill Clinton will be focusing on what he stands to lose. After all, not everyone can pick up a takeaway in a private jet.

Clinton, who famously closed two runways at Los Angeles while he had his hair cut on board Air Force One, so costing the taxpayer thousands of dollars, also likes to jet in on his favourite fast-food joint. No flight into Arkansas is complete without a call to McLards for pork, ribs, beans and coleslaw.

"We have sent as many as fifty portions with a side-order of twenty bottles of barbecue sauce out to the plane on the runway," says Phillip McLard.

Numbers up

FOLLOWING my report last week that the numbers 492 on the Princess of Wales's baseball cap could be a coded form of "Dibbs", James Hewitt's nickname for her, readers have offered other hypotheses about the mystery.

One points out that K.492 refers to Mozart's *Marriage of Figaro*, which features a countess who becomes attached to a military man — but by the end of Act IV has been reconciled with her philandering husband.

Another theory is that she was championing the exploits of Michael Atherton, the England cricket captain, who during his heroic innings in Johannesburg faced 492 balls.



"Do you ever wish we were called something else?"

Checkmate

*THE EROTIC poet Fiona Pitt-*Kethley, once dubbed "the bard of bawd", has found true love at last, and is to marry on Saturday. The woman who rather desperately boasts of sleeping with 100 men — "it would have been a thousand if I'd gone for the uglies as well" — is to marry the former British chess champion and grandmaster, James Plaskett.

Pitt-Kethley has been sceptical about romance in the past, and says her only previous experience of love was an "unhealthy psychosexual obsession" with fellow poet Hugo Williams. Pitt-Kethley once defined romance as just an excuse for having sex. So how has Plaskett won her heart?

"He has kept my interest as well as being attractive, and he has a very good sense of humour," she says. "We have been thinking vaguely about spending our lives together and just decided to get on with it. It will just be ten minutes in the registry office on Saturday and then we will go out to lunch with family and friends."



Pitt-Kethley: I do

P·H·S

A TEACHER DIES

A good man is murdered in the line of duty

The barbarism of the incident was as powerful as its tragedy. Philip Lawrence, a London headmaster, was murdered on Friday outside the gates of his own school. He had gone to the rescue of one of his schoolboys, the target of an attack by an armed gang of youths, and was stabbed in the course of his brave gesture. Mr Lawrence died hours later, and his death numbs his countrymen still.

Questions of all sorts are now being asked, and their source lies as much in anguish as in anger: anguish at the callous killing of a selfless man, who paid no heed to personal risk and thought only of his ward's safety; and anger that such violence should occur with such nakedness, done at daytime on the crowded streets of our capital city by boys of between 14 and 16 years of age. The cause of death is clear enough — a murderer and his blade. Yet a sense of failure must also accompany our feelings of rage. For it is impossible to consider Mr Lawrence's death without thought for the moral state in which parts of our society now lie.

Our immediate reaction needs to be more than just philosophical: some hard-edged administrative measures need quickly to be considered by both Parliament and police. The Home Secretary, Michael Howard, declared yesterday that he was considering increasing the severity of sentences for the crime of carrying offensive weapons in public. "If we think there is an advantage in stiffening the law," he said, "then that is something we will do." His Shadow, Jack Straw, more trenchant than he might have been in the Labour Party of old, demanded that the law be amended to address an "epidemic" of knives on British streets.

There is no doubt that too many of our urban streets are insecure; that the perpetrators of violence are often disconcertingly young: that many of our young of school-going age live lives of little parental or institutional control. There should be no doubt, also, that the problem can be solved only in part by tougher laws and tougher policing. Yet the lawmakers' attention must focus afresh on the knife, the weapon which sent Mr Lawrence to his death.

At present, it is possible for a man to walk down Oxford Street, or the Old Kent Road, with a bread-knife or small machete, without the police being able to stop and arrest him. Knives — beyond a small variety such as flick-knives — are not "offensive weapons" per se. The law defines the latter as objects either made for causing injury to another, or adapted for such use: a knuckleduster is a weapon of the first sort, a rubber hose filled with lead an example of the second. Ordinary knives, statistically shown to be the source of as much injury as that caused by "offensive weapons", are not prohibited in public places: so even if the police were to use with greater vigour their powers to stop and search, the discovery of a knife on a man's person would tend to involve no more than a caution. To charge a man in such circumstances, the police would need to be able to prove in court that the accused "intended" to harm another.

There ought to be a new, middle way. Making criminal the carrying of all knives in public places could — and this is the *reductio ad absurdum* — lead to the prosecution of people going on a picnic. Why not, instead, transfer the burden of proof to the bearer of the knife? Let him show good reason to the police when stopped: after all, carrying a knife is not like carrying keys. The death of Mr Lawrence has made us reflect once more on the state of our society. Let it also spark a pragmatic debate about changes in the law.

SAFETY FIRST

The familiar fears of ordinary Russians

Beware the friendly Russian couple who proffer a welcoming glass of vodka. Too often nowadays, as our correspondent Thomas de Waal learnt to his cost, the gesture turns out to be a criminal, if not murderous, attempt to poison and rob the innocent tourist. Spiking drinks used to be a favourite ploy of KGB thugs; now, it seems, anyone can buy, over the counter, a drug that lowers blood pressure and renders the unwitting victim virtually comatose. Our correspondent, fit, experienced and quick-thinking, was lucky and escaped with his life, if not his wallet. Hundreds of foreigners, however, are now the target of frequent attacks: muggings, assault and even being gassed in their berths by gangs working Russia's overnight trains.

Parts of Moscow are now virtually no-go areas. Muscovites warn foreigners to beware of the main railway stations or bridges where gangs of gypsies lie in wait for those who look as though they may be carrying dollars, marks and the like. Westerners have been deserting restaurants in droves after a spate of gangland killings: in one recent incident a British businessman was wounded when gunmen burst in and opened fire. The police, lazy and corrupt or struggling against insurmountable odds, are of little use: an intimidating warning not to pursue the case or a shrug of despair is often the response.

No wonder Russia's fledgeling tourist industry is in danger of collapse. The horror stories multiply in the retelling: mafia-controlled hotels where guests have to run the gauntlet of leather-jacketed louts in the lobby; deregulated internal airlines where the safety record is as appalling as the service: currency fraud, cheating and incomprehensible bureaucracy that could be plain incompetence but is more likely to be criminal in its intention.

Tourists, however, are only the occasional witnesses to a crime wave that has engulfed Russia. Resident businessmen have to struggle against corruption and attempted extortion every day, and nowadays only the hardened are willing to brave the harassments of daily life and the obstruction of officials who regard Western investors as milch cows for their personal profit. The real victims are the Russians themselves: the millions who see their meagre pensions or exiguous salaries disappear into the pockets of racketeers; the struggling entrepreneur who has to pay protection money; the gullible consumer who loses his life's savings to those promising instant wealth from bogus investments.

Crime is now the main concern of Russian voters. It is also the main reason why the Communists are now far ahead in the opinion polls, with some 22 per cent of the vote. The Communists are deliberately harking back to an earlier age of law and order — even if the law was Stalinist and the order undemocratic. Even some victims of the old system look back to a time when the streets were safe, the KGB inspired fear and exploitation was kept within bounds. The Government also promises a law and order campaign, but its record inspires no confidence. The candidate best placed to take advantage of this clamour is Aleksandr Lebed, the charismatic former general. Russians want a strong man to take strong measures. Sadly, anyone living in Moscow now has to agree that without the smack of firm government, reform will be strangled by the criminals exploiting Russia's new freedoms.

CROWNS INTERNATIONAL

Foreign philanthropists are special British heroes

The Hanoverian royal crowns and Coronation Bible have been saved for the United Kingdom by Prince Jefri Bolkiah of Brunei. They will be returned to their proper settings with the other crown jewels in the Tower of London, whence they were improperly removed in 1836. There they can fill their unique niches in the history of jewellery and symbolism, and shine as a tourist attraction and visual aid to the story of the monarchy.

Not everything that is hustled for by the heritage industry is either national or heritage. The finest art is the inheritance of neither the artist's home town nor where it was created, but of every subsequent person whom it affects with wonder and delight. But in the week since the threat that these historic crowns might be sold to a foreign buyer was disclosed in *The Times*, the argument that they should stay with the other royal crowns has rung true.

Prince Jefri is treading in a long tradition of foreign philanthropy. The first overseas recorder of London described it as a great market visited by traders from many lands. Those who made their fortunes in Britain — or from British protection — once left their thanksgiving gifts to religious houses, City guilds and kings. The typical medieval foundation was an ecclesiastical perpetuity operating a monastery, orphanage, almshouse or school. Renaissance merchants created charitable institutions, and these were criticised by such 18th-century economists as Adam Smith for their obsolescence of purpose or palliative character.

When popular philanthropy replaced piety in the 19th century, and boomed, foreign benefactors began to contribute handsomely to the British heritage. They all had their individual reasons. George Peabody was an American who became a wealthy banker in England. Crossing the Atlantic in the opposite philanthropic direction, James Smithson was an English scientist who set up his institution "for the increase and diffusion of knowledge among men".

Prince Jefri has just bought Asprey's, the royal jewellers for those born with not just a silver spoon but a golden swizzle-stick in their mouths: the publicity will do his new business only good. Recently, London Zoo was saved from extinction by the Emir of Kuwait and Swraj Paul, an Indian businessman who contributed a glorious memorial to a daughter who had died young. Andrew Mellon, art-loving ambassador at the Court of St James's, and Andrew Carnegie with his public libraries in furtherance of civilisation, left the grandest possible bequests to the national heritage. Saudi Arabia and Japan, Fiat and Gulbenkian now give to improve the national universities. From Mappa Mundi to the Mound Stand at Lord's, and from *The Three Graces* to the unspoilt view of Ely Cathedral sailing above the Fens, archetypical national heritage has been saved by the English liberality of John Paul Getty II.

One advantage of such an old trading country is that traders come here from all over the world to make or spend their fortunes. Another, of which we can also be proud, is that they like it well enough here to give to preserve what is special about it.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

Asylum changes cause concern

From the Bishop of Liverpool and others

Sir, We view with considerable concern measures and legislative proposals being put forward by the Government which will affect both asylum-seekers and settled members of the black and minority communities here. We recognise the Government's commitment to the Geneva Convention on Refugees, and to deal with all asylum claims individually, but we are unsure if the spirit of these commitments can be adhered to in the context of the new proposals. We are anxious about the effect on race relations if the proposals are hurried through in a contentious atmosphere.

We understand that the Social Security Secretary is considering the report of his advisory committee about his measures to remove entitlement to benefits of asylum-seekers who did not claim asylum at a port of entry, who are appealing against a refusal, or who are deemed to have come from a so-called safe country. He is to lay the necessary regulations before Parliament on December 18.

If they are implemented thousands of people could find themselves homeless and penniless from January 8, at the coldest time of the year. The measures are also to apply to anyone making further representations against a refusal or deportation order and to some dependants of those settled here, who will be largely elderly people. Many vulnerable people, including children, will be affected.

The Asylum and Immigration Bill is to have its second reading on December 11. It empowers the Home Secretary to decide in which countries there is minimal risk of persecution and which third countries (through which an asylum-seeker may have passed) are "safe". It effectively abolishes appeals — which have only recently been introduced — from "safe" countries. This, with the denial of benefits, appears to undermine the spirit of the Geneva Convention.

Measures are also being planned requiring public service officials to check the immigration status of those receiving services; employers are to be asked to do the same for new employees. If doctors and nurses, teachers and housing or social security officials are to inquire into people's immigration status it will undermine professional relationships and people may not apply for the services they need. Smaller employers in particular may react by discriminating against black job applicants. Members of the minority communities will undoubtedly be the main subjects of these employment and services checks.

When these matters were discussed in Parliament it was suggested (reports, November 16, 17) that a special standing committee might be introduced, to consult with representatives of those most directly affected and hear from the experts in the field. This is particularly important in the light of the tight timescale related to benefit withdrawal. We urge the Government to delay implementation and to re-examine this mechanism and all its proposals.

Yours sincerely,
†DAVID LIVERPOOL,
LESLIE GRIFFITHS (President, Methodist Conference, 1994-95),
PATRICK O'DONOGHUE (Auxiliary Bishop of Westminster),
FIDELIA ONYUKU-OPUKIRI (Council of African and Afro-Caribbean Churches),
THEO SAMUEL (Moderator, Churches Commission for Racial Justice),
Church House, 1 Hanover Street, Liverpool, Merseyside.
December 8.

From Mrs Eva Crowe

Sir, Some immigrants want the authorities to prove that deportation will not have fatal consequences. The authorities want the immigrants to prove they are in danger. What choices are open here?

I can think of a middle way: we should require the Home Secretary, deporting an immigrant to a country such as Nigeria, to direct the British ambassador or consul to monitor, and make known his responsibility for, the welfare of that deported individual until human rights violations in the destination have ended.

Yours faithfully,
EVA CROWE,
1 Lodge Cottages, Crown Inn Yard, Axford, Basingstoke, Hampshire.
December 7.

Remembering a dedicated teacher

From Mr Harry Greenway, MP for Ealing North (Conservative), and the Right Reverend the Abbot of Ealing

Sir, We represent the community in which Philip Lawrence, lately Headmaster of St George's Roman Catholic School, lived and worked. Naturally we are close to his widow, Frances, and their four young children. They are foremost in our thoughts and prayers following the ghastly killing of Philip outside his school last Friday (reports, December 9).

Philip and Frances met when they were both teaching in St Benedict's School which is attached to the monastery of St Benedict at Ealing. The family have lived in the parish for many years, and Philip was a regular reader at one of the Sunday Masses. He was the family breadwinner and has been struck down at the tragically early age of 48, apparently by the knife of one against whom he was seeking to defend a young pupil with his usual courage and professional dedication.

We well know from our own experience that head teachers, senior and assistant teachers across the country, but particularly in urban areas, have to deal with challenges to their schools, both from outside and within. These pressures can be highly aggressive and take many forms. We strongly urge all concerned to take a fresh look at the protection of heads and their staffs in and around their schools to seek to ensure that a similar, tragic, killing is not repeated.

The numbness and shock of this appalling tragedy are keenly felt by the whole monastic, parish and wider community. We hope the sentiments of grief and support that are being expressed by so many will, at least in some measure, be of comfort to Frances and her family. We are certain that the whole country will wish to associate itself with them.

Yours etc,
HARRY GREENWAY,
House of Commons,
LAURENCE SOPER, OSB,
Ealing Abbey, W5 2DY.
December 10.

Evidence versus anxiety over BSE

From Lord Walton of Detchant and Sir Anthony Epstein, FRS

Sir, Your leading article in response to the recent upsurge in public concern over the possible dangers of BSE to human health ("Health at steak", December 2; letters, December 5, 7), rightly points out that the risk is unquantifiable and that demands for certainty cannot easily be satisfied.

This situation has remained unchanged since the very start of BSE and was recognised by the Government's first working party on the subject. As two of the four signatories of that working party's report (to the Secretary of State for Health and the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, February 1989) we would like to draw your attention to two key sentences in its general conclusions:

From the present evidence, it is likely that cattle will prove to be a "dead-end host" for the disease agent and most unlikely that BSE will have any implications for human health. Nevertheless, if our assessments of these likelihoods are incorrect, the implications would be extremely serious.

Whatever the Government may or may not have done over the last six years regarding BSE, much has been heard of the first of the sentences but very little of the second. However, in the current state of knowledge, we still adhere to the view that the first sentence is much more likely to prove correct.

Yours faithfully,
WALTON OF DETCHANT,
Green College,
ANTHONY EPSTEIN,
Wolfson College, Oxford.
December 6.

From Professor A. R. Michell

Sir, Simon Jenkins is to be congratulated on his sound and rational approach to BSE (article, December 6): would that some of the medical "experts" had a similar sense of perspective.

I recently attended a meeting of specialists in medical nutrition at which it was seriously suggested that all British cattle should be slaughtered and that restocking might be difficult because of exportation of BSE in semen. What was distressing was not so much the emotive misuse of scientific evidence as the apparent willingness of much of this medical audience to swallow it.

Subsequently, various medical researchers, and more recently a government minister, have added to public disquiet because they cannot be "certain" that BSE is not the cause of CJD. Public risk, however, is a matter of relative probabilities, seldom of certainties. If we wanted absolute certainty, no child would be allowed to ride a bicycle to school.

The chances of getting CJD are one in a million, whereas those of getting Alzheimer's are one in a hundred. The link between aluminium and Alzheimer's, while tenuous, is stronger than that between BSE and CJD. Even if aluminium were a factor in only one case in a hundred of Alzheimer's, it would still do 100 times more harm than CJD. I hope that the schools which have banished beef have also discarded all their aluminium cooking utensils, kettles etc.

Anyone suffering insomnia about beef and CJD should be reassured. It will protect them from a cause of death which, according to mortality statistics I have seen, is ten times more probable — falling out of bed.

Yours sincerely,
A. R. MICHELL,
(Professor of Comparative Medicine, University of London),
Brewers Cottage,
Wheathampstead, Hertfordshire.

From Mr George Cowie

Sir, Given the apparent conflict of interest between the beef production lobby and the health of the nation should not Food, which is at present subsumed under Agriculture, be independently represented at ministerial level?

Yours faithfully,
GEORGE COWIE,
The Croft,
16 Priory Road, Boston, Lincolnshire.
December 7.

Bar complaints

From Mr Ronald Thwaites, QC

Sir, In his letter of December 1, Mr Michael Barnes, Legal Services Ombudsman, writes that

fears . . . that [the proposed new Bar complaints system] would open a floodgate to complaints from former clients in prison are groundless, since the proposed compensation would not cover work in court for which barristers have immunity from actions in negligence.

I wonder if he is the same Legal Services Ombudsman who stated recently (report, October 10) that

It is very unsatisfactory that the Bar is not allowing people to complain over shoddy work in court. If a complaint is that the barrister failed to call a witness or did not argue a point correctly, then I cannot investigate. It falls squarely within the immunity. . . . But the position is still undefined and subject to challenge in the courts.

In his latest letter, Mr Barnes describes the new complaints procedure as "a very modest proposal indeed and one that is long overdue". I disagree on both points. The scheme requires that we give up control of our disciplinary procedures to a layman and that panels to be formed for the purpose of adjudicating disputes and ordering payment of compensation should consist of an equal number of laymen and barristers.

This amounts to the abandonment of self-regulation (we already have lay involvement), which is unacceptable to many barristers of all kinds and at all levels of seniority. Further, the idea that barristers should be penalised financially for "bad manners", at the suit of disappointed clients, is ludicrous.

The new scheme adds nothing of value to our existing procedures but would take the cornerstones away and cause the roof to fall in on our profession.

It is a pity that the forthcoming ballot, from December 12 to January 9, will include the votes of 4,000 employed barristers, for whom these proposals are of academic interest only. I trust that all 8,500 practising barristers will return their ballot papers.

Yours faithfully,
RONALD THWAITES,
10 King's Bench Walk,
Temple, EC4.
December 2.

Enemies of peace

From the Reverend L. Cumings

Sir, A distinguished nonconformist preacher, Dr J. H. Jowett, spoke at a conference of world churches in Copenhagen in 1922 on the subject of European disarmament:

Behind material disarmament, he said, was the deeper, more serious and more difficult matter of the disarmament of the mind. To uproot the prejudices out of which misunderstandings arose would do more to make armaments unnecessary than the activities of the governments. The greatest enemies of peace were lurking fears and suspicions (*John Henry Jowett*, by Arthur Porritt, Hodder & Stoughton (1924)).

Perhaps this has something to say to us today in the Northern Ireland context.

Yours faithfully,
L. CUMINGS,
Coedllan, Llanfyllin, Powys.
December 6.

Penny foolish

From Mrs P. Moss

Sir, I hope that all customers of Major U. F. B. Tristram (letter, December 2) follow his excellent example and ignore odd pence on any bills that his company should issue.

I also hope that the Inland Revenue recognise that asking for pence from his tax is indeed a waste of postage and any future mail should be sent unstamped.

Yours faithfully,
P. MOSS,
63 Woodfield Avenue,
Farlington, Portsmouth, Hampshire.
December 3.

Letters to the Editor should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number — 0171-782 5046.

Market lore

From Mr Charles A. Berry

Sir, I must object to one phrase in your leading article today, "French without tears": "As the vultures gathered in the foreign exchange markets . . ."

After 25 years' experience in this market I beg to quote Count Otto Lambsdorff, economic adviser to the German Free Democratic Party, speaking on the BBC's *Newsnight* on October 1, 1993: "Speculators are people who are using the failures and mistakes of governments and central banks and nothing else. It is the failure of politics."

Yours faithfully,
CHARLES A. BERRY
(Director), Haycord Ltd
(Currency Fund Management),
Warren Lodge, Braybrooke Gardens,
Wargrave, Berkshire.
December 4.

Women priests and church unity

From the Reverend John Hawthorne

Sir, The Provost of Leicester (letter, December 4) accuses the provincial episcopal visitors, or "flying bishops", of creating schism by their utterances. He claims that their appointment cannot be reconciled with the "spirit and unity of the New Testament Church", and further that their brief was to give pastoral support to those who cannot accept the ordination of women to the priesthood.

This last is true, but it is not their sole function. Paragraph 5 (4) of the Episcopal Ministry Act 1993, under which the appointment of flying bishops was created, clearly states that each should act "as *spokesman and adviser* for those who are opposed".

By its unilateral action in passing the measure to ordain women to the priesthood, in opposition to the vast majority of the catholic Church, of which the Church of England claims itself to be part, General Synod itself acted contrary to the "spirit and unity of the New Testament Church". This was the cause of the disunity the Provost rightly condemns.

Further, the Act of Synod of November 1993 clearly states in its preamble that the discernment of the rightness of ordaining women to the priesthood "should be as open a process as possible".

One can only assume that those, like the Provost of Leicester, who wish to gag the Bishop of Richborough and others who are legitimately pursuing this open process, are worried lest the outcome may prove them wrong and their theology flawed.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN HAWTHORNE,
The Vicarage,
The Green, Tetbury, Gloucestershire.
December 4.

From Mr John Preston Bell

Sir, I have no doubt that the women priests in the Diocese of Leicester are paragons, and that that is why the Provost has received no complaints about them.

However it is possible to hypothesise other reasons why congregations are loath to make official complaints about incompetent or otherwise unsuitable women priests. One could argue that incompetence is not exclusively a female preserve and that we have suffered before: or that if we do complain we are not entirely sure that we will receive very much support — if indeed even a reply — from our diocesan bishop.

But there is another reason which I know from my own experience. A parish with an unsuitable woman as its priest-in-charge may struggle uncomplainingly, in a quiet spirit of Christian perseverance, to make the best of things and try to carry her through.

There are very good Christians among the congregations in the dioceses, and knowing what some of them are suffering as I write, I would be glad on their behalf of some empathy from the good Provost.

Yours truly,
JOHN PRESTON BELL,
St Aubin,
Hook Green, Meopham, Kent.
December 4.

From the Reverend Dr J. Barry Shucksmith

Sir, The Provost of Leicester Cathedral quotes with approval a bishop's comment that "flying bishops are a prize piece of bad theology", adding, "I certainly cannot reconcile the appointments with the spirit and unity of the New Testament Church".

The real difficulty for many of us is that we cannot reconcile the appointment of diocesan bishops with the New Testament at all.

Yours sincerely,
BARRY SHUCKSMITH,
3 Fourth Avenue,
Cosham, Portsmouth, Hampshire.
December 4.

A grubby post

From the Domestic Bursar of St Edmund Hall

Sir, The suggestion of H. A. C. Bruce-Gardyne (St Edmund Hall 90-94) that Judge Stephen Tumim might happily spend his time at this college fielding complaints about the food (letter, December 6) may puzzle our learned and newly-elected senior research fellow.

He will be spending the next year or so with us as he prepares his book on penal reform, but there is no doubt in my mind that the famous Teddy Hall cuisine will have been one of the principal attractions of the appointment.

Yours faithfully,
GEOFFREY BOURNE-TAYLOR,
Domestic Bursar,
St Edmund Hall, Oxford.
December 6.

Animal liberation

From Mr Mike Borwick

Sir, One of the officials of the League Against Cruel Sports claims that pet-owning is a form of slavery (report, December 4).

How very right he is. And I see no hope of my freedom until my two cats finally leave for the Great Cattery in the Sky.

Yours faithfully,
J. M. BORWICK,
12 High Elms Close,
Northwood, Middlesex.
December 5.

61-1; Larsen 24-7-44-0.

Umpires: S Dunne (New Zealand) and B C Cooray (Sri Lanka)

stubborn rearguard action by New Zealand.

surprisingly comfortable 82-65 victors at Derby Storm.

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
December 10: By Command of The Queen, Mr Leslie Weller (Deputy Lieutenant of West Sussex) was present at Gatwick Airport, London, this morning upon the Departure of the Governor-General of Antigua and Barbuda and Lady Carlisle and bade farewell to Their Excellencies on behalf of Her Majesty.

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: Charles Wesley, hymn-writer and evangelist, Bristol, 1757; Sir David Brewster, philosopher, Jedburgh, 1781; Hector Berlioz, composer, Côte-Saint-André, 1803; Alfred de Musset, poet, Paris, 1810; John Adams-Acton, sculptor, Acton, Middlesex, 1836; Robert Koch, bacteriologist, Nobel laureate 1905, Klausthal, Germany, 1843.

DEATHS: Llewelyn Ab Gruffydd, Prince of Wales, killed in battle near Builth, 1282; John Strype, historian, London, 1737; Colley Cibber, actor-manager, dramatist, London, 1757; Richard Doyle, artist and caricaturist, London, 1833; Olive Schreiner, novelist, Cape Town, 1920; Sam Cooke, singer, Los Angeles, 1964.

King James II fled from England, 1688.

Venetian blinds were patented in London by Edward Beran, 1769.

King Edward VIII abdicated, 1936.

Today's royal engagements

The Duke of Kent, as Patron of the European Community Baroque Orchestra, will attend a concert and dinner at St James's Palace at 7.05.

The Duchess of Kent, as patron, will attend the international launch of Unicef's 1996 State of the World's Children report at the St Ermin's hotel at 10.30.

S.O.E.

S.O.E.— Any former members of S.O.E. or any one immediate next-of-kin of any S.O.E. wartime casualty, who are not members of the S.F.C. and who would wish to attend the unveiling in London on February 13, 1996, of a memorial plaque to those who died, are invited to contact Box No: 01 Court, Court and Social Advertising, Level 5, 1 Virginia Street, London E1 9BD.

Birthdays today

Brigadier R.W. Acworth, registrar, St Paul's Cathedral, 57; Admiral of the Fleet Sir Edward Ashmore, 76; Miss Anna Carteret, actress, 53; Lord Elliott of Morpeth, 75; Sir Robert Fellowes, Private Secretary to The Queen, 54; Mr Andrew Lansley, former director, Conservative Research Department, 39; Mr Cliff Michelmore, broadcaster and television producer, 76; Sir Wilfrid Newton, former chairman, London Regional Transport, 67; Ms Karin Pappenheim, director, National Council for One Parent Families, 41; Mr D.E. Plowright, former chairman, Granada Television, 65; Mr Carlo Ponti, film producer, 82; Mr Patrick Reyntiens, glass painter, 70; Mr Raymond Robertson, MP, 36; Mr Alexander Solzhenitsyn, author, 77; Miss S.A. Spencer, former general secretary, National Council for Civil Liberties, 43; Mrs Sheila Walker, former chief commissioner, Girl Guides Association, 78.

Memorial service

Canon Michael James Jackson
A memorial service for Canon Michael James Jackson was held on Saturday at the Church of St Mary the Virgin, High Pavement, Nottingham. The Dean of Peterhouse, son-in-law, officiated and preached the sermon, assisted by Canon Eddie Neale.

Mrs Mary Ward, daughter, and Mrs Janette Buckland read the lessons. Canon Andrew Stokes, Precentor of Lincoln Cathedral, paid tribute. The Bishop of Southwell pronounced the blessing. The Bishop of Warwick was robed and in the sanctuary.

Dr John Rayne

A service of thanksgiving for the life and work of Dr John Rayne was held on Friday, December 8, 1995 at the University Church, St Mary the Virgin, Oxford. The Rev Colin Rudd officiated, assisted by Mr John Maley. Mr Kenneth Ray gave the address and Sir Terence English, Mr Richard Juniper and Mr Timothy Rayne (son) read the lessons. Among those present were:

Mrs Norma Rayne (widow), Miss Phillipa Rayne (daughter), Miss Tina Wall (niece) and other members of the family and many friends and colleagues.

Latest wills

Group Captain Sir Hugh Spencer Lisle Dundas, of London W8, the wartime fighter pilot, and former chairman of Thames Television and of British Electric Traction, left estate valued at £140,573 net.

ALBAN DONOHOE



Prince Edward leaving Sandringham church with his girlfriend, Sophie Rhys-Jones, after a morning service yesterday

Musket balls tell tale of Royalist defeat

BY NORMAN HAMMOND, ARCHAEOLOGY CORRESPONDENT

NEW archaeological evidence has transformed our understanding of the battlefield and the nature of the Battle of Naseby, the pivotal engagement of the Civil War, a recent study claims.

The distribution of musket balls, showing where troops actually fired at each other, and better understanding of the topography "has raised fundamental questions about the way in which troops were deployed in major engagements during the Civil War", according to Glenn Foard. However, writing in *Rescue News*, newspaper of the British Archaeological Trust, he says the evidence is in danger of destruction by treasure-hunters.

Mr Foard says that musket and pistol shot, and powder box caps, are scattered in a long line northwards from the village of Naseby, up past Sibbertoft to where the ground descends steeply in a series of dry valleys. More than a thousand shot have been located by a metal-detector survey, and show a series of concentrations. One, along with several battlefield burials, lies just north of Naseby, on the far side of the A14 A1-M1 link road (which, contrary to earlier claims, does not run through a significant part of the battlefield). Another is on Dust Hill, slightly further north, and from there the shot are found along the old land linking Naseby to Sibbertoft.

The northern concentration of shot is just east of Sibbertoft, where the royal baggage train is thought to have stood, and north from there to Moat Hill and Wadborough. Overall, there are two dense areas of firing, at the north and south ends of the battlefield, with only light activity along the road between.

In the battle, the Royalists, led by Prince Rupert, were overcome by Oliver Cromwell and General Fairfax. The topography on June 14, 1645, was much more open than it is today, Mr Foard says. A 1647 engraving of the battle shows the Royalist and Parliamentarian lines drawn up north of Naseby village in an undulating area with virtually no hedges or woods.

Although the metal-detector survey used by Mr Foard produced a careful record of the evidence, other treasure hunters are "often unaware of the damage they are doing as they strip sites of their most important evidence for personal collections or for sale", he says. "The metal-detecting fraternity have long been active in the area. It represents the greatest threat, because the most important archaeological evidence, at least on Civil War sites, is the distribution of musket balls and other metal objects."



Prince Rupert led the defeated Royalists

The way in which accurate plotting of such finds can reconstruct an engagement in detail was shown by work at the Little Big Horn site in Montana, where General Custer fell.

Mr Foard says that English Heritage's Battlefield Register, because it is advisory and not statutory, has "no mechanism to protect the artefact distributions from indiscriminate metal-detecting.

"The number of Civil War artefacts coming on to the market suggests that the archaeology of our battlefields is under severe threat, and the potential of these important historic sites will be severely devalued or completely destroyed."

Source: *Rescue News* 67: 2-3 ISSN 0950-5830.

Marriages

Mr C.T.F. White and Miss C.A. Campbell-Gray
The marriage took place on Saturday in St John's Cathedral, Oban, of Mr Charles White, son of Mr and Mrs Harvey White, of London, to Miss Charlotte Campbell-Gray, daughter of the the late the Hon Cailain Campbell-Gray and of Mrs Campbell-Gray, of Taynuilt, Argyll. The Rev Dale A. Gray officiated.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her brother, Mr James Campbell-Gray, was attended by the Hon Tamara Meade, Fiona Playford and Alistair and Lucy McClelland. Mr Hugh Adlington was best man.

A reception was held at the home of the bride and the honeymoon will be spent abroad.

Mr J.R. Rolph and Miss A. Garden
The marriage took place on Saturday at St Clement Danes, Strand, of Mr Jonathan Richard Rolph, elder son of Mr and Mrs Philip Rolph, of Walkern, Hertfordshire, to Miss Antonia Garden, younger daughter of Air Marshal Sir Timothy and Lady Garden, of Hampstead. The Rev A.P. Bishop officiated.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, was attended by Miss Alexandra Sarah Garden and Miss Lara Hitchcock. Mr Huw Bucknell was best man.

A reception was held at Seaford House, Belgrave Square, and the honeymoon will be spent in Florence.

Mr M. Oglina and Miss S.M. Dallaturca
The marriage took place on Saturday, December 9, at the Church of the Immaculate Conception, Farm Street, Mayfair, of Mr Mauro Oglina, elder son of Mr and Mrs Luigi Oglina, of East Finchley, London, to Miss Sonia Dallaturca, middle daughter of Mr Alberto Dallaturca, of Higher Denham, Buckinghamshire, and Mrs Lina Dallaturca, of Ealing, London. Father Micheal Beattie, SJ, officiated.

Mr P.J.J.W. Wallace and Miss H.P. Garnett
The marriage took place on Friday, December 8, at The Guards Chapel, London, of Mr Patrick Wallace, eldest son of the late Dr Vivienne Paula Wallace and of Dr John Mansergh-Wallace, to Miss Henrietta Garnett, daughter of the late Henry Garnett and of the Hon Mrs Mark Wyndham. The Rev John Barrie officiated, assisted by Father Michael Seed.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her brother, Mr Charles Garnett, was attended by Serena Esme and Avena Mansergh-Wallace, Emma Vaughan, Wilby Wyndham, David Norton, and the Hon Arthur Jeffreys.

A reception was held at Brooks's Club, St James's and the honeymoon is being spent abroad.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr J.P. Barbour and Miss C.C. Jeffcock
The engagement is announced between Jason Patrick, younger son of Mr Patrick Barbour, of London, W4, and Mrs Barbara Barbour, of London, SW1, and Cordelia Caroline, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs Jeffcock, of Wellington House, Lymington, Hampshire.

Mr J.N. Berry and Miss F.M. Stubbs
The engagement is announced between Julian Nicholas, younger son of Mr and Mrs C.R. Berry, of Reading, Berkshire, and Fiona Mairi, youngest daughter of Sir William and Lady Stubbs, of West Adderbury, Oxfordshire.

Mr P.C.N. Haggard and Miss S.E. Laybourne
The engagement is announced between Philip, son of Mr Piers Haggard, of Stockwell, London, and Mrs Christiane Sherwen, of Winkfield, Berkshire, and Sophie Elizabeth, daughter of the late Mr Jack Laybourne and of Mrs Josephine Laybourne, of Bloomsbury, London.

Mr W.J.E. Hanham and Miss J.T. Sebag-Montefiore
The engagement is announced between William, son of Sir Michael and Lady Hanham, of Wimborne Minster, Dorset, and Jennifer, daughter of Mr and Mrs Harold Sebag-Montefiore, of Kensington.

Mr E.J.C. Leigh-Wood and Miss R.M. Cacanas
The engagement is announced between Edward, son of Mr James Leigh-Wood, of Wellingham, Norfolk and Mrs David Chapman, of Downton, Wiltshire, and Rachel, daughter of Mr and Mrs George Cacanas, of Upper Swainswick, Bath.

Church appointments

The Rev Brian Toll, Rector, Capel St Mary w Little Wenham and Great Wenham: to be Priest-in-charge, St Mary at the Elms, Ipswich (St Edmundsbury and Ipswich).

The Rev Barry Tomlinson, Rector, Great and Little Plumstead with Thorpe End and Witton and part-time Chaplain of Little Plumstead Hospital: has resigned as Chaplain of Little Plumstead Hospital (Norwich).

The Rev David Underwood, Priest-in-charge, St John the Evangelist, Bury St Edmunds: to be *also* Rural Dean of Thingoe (St Edmundsbury and Ipswich).

The Rev Peter Wadsworth, Vicar, all Saints, East Meon w St John the Evangelist, Langrish: to be Vicar, St Thomas the Apostle, Elson and Rural Dean of Gosport (Portsmouth).

The Rev Julie Wallace, Hon. Curate, St Dunstan, Bellingham: to be Team Vicar, St Nicholas, Kidbrooke (Southwark).

The Rev Geoffrey Webster, Priest-in-charge, Hamsterley and Witton le Wear: to be Vicar of that parish (Durham).

The Rev Canon Michael Whitehead, Vicar, Hartlepool St Aidan w St Columba: has resigned as Rural Dean of Hartlepool and remains Vicar, Hartlepool St Aidan w St Columba (Durham).

The Rev Martin Wray, Priest-in-charge, Chopwell: to be Vicar of that parish (Durham).

The Rev Tony Wright, Priest-in-charge, Satley and Tow Law: to be Vicar of that parish (Durham).

The Rev Kevin Wyld, Priest-in-charge, High Spen and Rowlands Gill: to be Vicar of that parish (Durham).

The Rev Paul Williams, Curate, St James, Muswell Hill (London): to be Associate Vicar, Christ Church, Clifton (Bristol).

The Rev Canon Dennis Winter, Vicar, Paddock Wood: to be *also* Rural Dean of Paddock Wood (Rochester).

The Rev Andrew Yorke, Vicar, Christ Church, Totland Bay, Isle of Wight: to be also Priest-in-charge, St Swithin, Thorley, Isle of Wight (Portsmouth).

Resignations and retirements
The Rev Hugh Edgell, Vicar, Horning w Beeston St Lawrence and Ashmanhaugh, Prior St Benet's Abbey, County Chaplain, Royal British Legion, Holiday Chaplain, Chaplain to the Order of St John in Norfolk (Norwich): to retire November 30.

The Rev Henry Hughes, Priest-in-charge (NSM), Hoar Cross (Lichfield): retired November 10.

The Rev Norman Jackson, Honorary Curate, Bishopstoke (Winchester): has retired.

The Rev John Ledward, Rector, Rockland St Mary w Hellington, Bramerton, Surlingham, Claxton, Carleton St Peter and Kirby Bedon w Whitlingham (Bramerton group ministry) (Norwich): retired September 30.

The Rev David Maple, Chaplain, St John's Hospital, Canterbury (Canterbury): retired October 31.

Nature notes



The chiffchaff

WITH the hard weather on the Continent, many blackbirds have crossed over to Britain and swollen the native population. Some will go on to Ireland. Goldeneye ducks from Scandinavia have arrived on the coast and on lakes: the drakes have black heads with a round white cheek-patch, the females have chocolate-coloured heads, and both sexes have bright yellow eyes. They are indefatigable divers, and can stay underwater for half a minute pursuing fish, shrimps or dragonfly nymphs.

There are unusual numbers of wintering chiffchaffs this year, probably because of the mild autumn. They are usually seen in trees near water or in reedbeds, where insects are most easily found in the winter.

Weeping willow trees are only just beginning to lose their yellow leaves: where they lean over lakes, the leaves form colourful circles on the water or on the ice.

Gwelder rose trees have lost their leaves, but many are still covered with blood-red berries. The flowers that best survive the frost are groundsel and white dead-nettle. Winter gnats dance in swarms when the sun shines in the afternoon. Unlike the common gnat, they are not members of the mosquito family, and do not bite.

DJM

University news

Oxford
Magdalen College
The following elections have been made:
To a Fellowship by Examination in German Literature (for three years from October 1, 1996): Mererid Puw Davies, BA, Magdalen College and St John's College.
To a Fellowship by Examination in Classical Archaeology (for three years from October 1, 1996): Andrew Ian Wilson, BA, Corpus Christi College.

Jesus College
Bahram Dehqani-Tafti Scholarship
Mr Benjamin David Harold Dubow (Woodhouse Sixth Form College), of Jesus College, has been elected to the above scholarship with effect from October 1995. He is reading PPE.

Somerville College
The following elections have been agreed:
To an Ethel A. Jones Scholarship in English: Susannah Louise Commings (formerly of Tonbridge GS for Girls).
To a Seymour Exhibition in Mathematics: Falk Tschirchnitz (Erfurt Secondary S, Germany).
To a Shaw Lefevre Exhibition in Literae Humaniores: Rebecca Anne Claire Swindells (Dr Challoner's HS, Bucks).
To a College Prize in Modern History: Nicola Emma Tomlinson (Clifton Coll, Bristol).
To a College Prize in Modern History: Pia Anjolie Oberoi (UWC of the Adriatic, Italy).
To a Coombs Prize in Ancient and Modern History: Sophie Indumathie Agrell (Walthamstow Hall, Kent).
To a Coombs Prize in English: Claire Louise Mason (Dane Valley HS, Cheshire).
To a Gamble Prize in Philosophy, Politics and Economics: Ee-Ching Tay (Hwa Chong Jun Coll, Singapore).
To a Kirkaldy Prize in Chemistry: Zoe Makepeace, (Haberdashers' Aske's S for Girls, Herts).
To a Sarah Smithson Prize in Classics and Modern Languages: Celine Jane Carty (St John Fisher RC HS, Staffs).

Cambridge
Michael Smithson is to be the university's next Development Director. Mr Smithson, 49, is Director of Fundraising for the LSE Foundation, the body that supports the development plans for the London School of Economics, succeeding Dr C.W. Squire.

King's College
John Douglass Barber elected Vice-Provost of the college at the annual congregation on November 21 with immediate effect.
Elected into honorary fellowships: Marilyn Butler, Rector of Exeter College Oxford; Lisa Jardine, Professor of English and Dean of the Faculty of Arts of Queen Mary College, London University.
Elected into a senior visiting research fellowship for one year from next October 1: Elizabeth Janet Browne.

Hughes Hall
Elected into a Fellowship in Class A: Nicholas Jackson O'Shaunessy, University Lecturer in the Department of Engineering.
Elected into Fellowships in Class B (Research Fellowships): Heiner Igel; Vassilios Karakostas; James Thomas Rigney; Joao Pedro Simas.

Wolfson College
Elected to Honorary Fellowships: Jack Naisbit King, Bursar and Secretary of the Trustees of the College 1968-79; Vice-President 1984-88; Director of the Wolfson Course and Programme 1979-94; Senior Fellow 1984-95.
Leslie Zines, Emeritus Professor of Law, Australian National University. Visiting Fellow of the College 1988 and 1992-93; Fellow of the College and Arthur Goodhart Professor of Legal Science in the University of Cambridge 1992-93.

Manchester
Catherine Davies, Senior Lecturer in Hispanic Studies, Queen Mary and Westfield College, to be Professor of Spanish from January 1.

BMD'S: 0171 782 7272
PRIVATE: 0171 481 4000

PERSONAL COLUMN

TRADE: 0171 481 1982
FAX: 0171 481 9313

And remember, I am coming soon. Happy is the one who takes to heart the words of prophecy contained in this book.
Revelation 22 : 7 (REB)

BIRTHS

HOLT - On 5th December 1995, 11.11 pm, at Queen Charlotte's Hospital London W6, to Marie-Claire (née Sturbois) and David, a daughter (Chloe Audrey) a sister for Katie and Jonathan.

LUMSDEN - On Friday 8th December 1995 in Amsterdam to Angelliek (née Van Sambeeck) A daughter Katriona Wilhelmina Joanna.

PECK - In Chichester on December 6th, to Sally (née Batty) and Charles, a daughter, Josephine Stella.

DEATHS

ALBU - Valerie Patricia, widow of Peter Albu, late of Lilley, nr. Luton, much loved mother of Simon, Toby and Sarah, died 9th December 1995. Funeral at St Peter's Church, Lilley, 10 am Friday 15th December. Family flowers only. Any donations to Garden House Hospice, Letchworth, Herts.

ALINGTON - Hester Mary, on 7th December at Saint Michaels Hospital, Braintree aged 76. Youngest daughter of the late Reverand Charles and Kathleen Alington. Funeral at Chelmsford Crematorium on Friday December 15th at 12.30pm.

BAILLIE - On December 7th peacefully at Cheltenham General Hospital, Lieutenant Colonel (retired) Ian Gordon, late of Princess of Wales Royal Regiment (formerly the Queens Regiment), aged 53. Dearly beloved husband of Ro, devoted father to Angus, Annabel, Alistair and Andrew and brother of Jennie. Private cremation. Service of Thanksgiving at St Peter's Church, Church Road, Leckhampton, on Thursday December 14th at 12 noon. Family flowers only. Donations, if desired, to the Cheltenham Cobalt Unit or Army Benevolent Fund, c/o Salim Smith, 74 Prestbury Road, Cheltenham.

DEATHS

CLARKE - Hilton Swift C.B.E. Peacefully on 6th December 1995 at Bexhill, after a long illness. Funeral Service at St Mark's Church, Little Common, Bexhill, on Thursday 14th December 1995 at 11 am. Family flowers only. Donations, if desired, to either the Marie Curie Foundation or The Macmillan Nurses c/o Mummery F/D, 31 Devonshire Road, Bexhill-on-Sea, East Sussex TN40 1AH.

COPE - Edna Beatrice, formerly of Repton, Derbyshire. Mother of Janem, mother-in-law of David and grandmother to Sharne and Guy. Private family service.

COLLIN - Barbara, widow of Hugh and much loved mother of Christopher, Jane and Richard. Peacefully on 7th December aged 90, at Little Haven, Dibden Purlieu. Funeral at Southampton Crematorium on Thursday 14th December at 1.30pm.

EVERITT Lulu, (née Cardiff) peacefully on December 7th with her husband Arthur by her side. Funeral at Saint Andrews Parish Church, Gorleston, Great Yarmouth Friday December 15th 2pm.

FOCKE - Richard on December 7th, brother of Rosemary and uncle of Gina and Caroline. Funeral at St. Olaves, Hart Street, London EC3 on December 14th at 11am. If desired flowers to Chelsea Funeral Directors, 260b Fulham Rd, London SW10 or a donation to your favourite charity in his memory.

HARDAKER - The Revd. Leonard, on Thursday 8th December. Much loved husband of Sylvia and father of Rachel, grandpa of Hamish.

DEATHS

ILLSLEY - On December 7th peacefully in Hospital Florence Maude "Bubbles" (née Robinson) of Market Harborough aged 82 years. Beloved wife of Wilfred, loving mother of Richard, Pat, William and John and a dear grandmother and great grandmother. Funeral service at Saint Nicholas Church, Little Bowden on Friday December 15th at 11.30am followed by private cremation. No flowers by request, donations if desired for Diabetic Care Unit (Kettering General Hospital) to J Stamp and Sons, Funeral Directors, Market Harborough LE16 8AN Tel: 01858 462824.

REDFERN - Eva, top international film and publishing consultant, and wife of the late Major Geoffrey Redfern M.B.E., and dearly loved stepmother of David. Died suddenly after a short illness on December 7th. Funeral at Golders Green Crematorium at 1 pm on Thursday 14th December. No flowers but donations if wished to the Friends of the Royal Free Hospital.

SHARP - On December 7th Philip Granville aged 92. Former solicitor of St Mawes. Husband of Vivien (née Ham). Father of Tamsin, Richard, Jennie, Phillipa, Nigel and Bridget. A grandfather and great grandfather. Service at St Just - in - Roseland Parish Church on Friday December 15th at 2.30 pm followed by interment. At his request, no flowers, but donations if wished to Help the Aged c/o Barclays Bank St Mawes or Terence Tregunna Funeral Director 49 Kenwyn Street, Truro, Cornwall.

TOOTELL - Margaret Mabel. Beloved mother, grandmother and great grandmother and widow of Derek. Passed away peacefully at her home in Jersey on December 7th 1995. Funeral Service at St Martin's Parish Church, Jersey December 13th at 11.45 am.

DEATHS

WILLIAMS - Glyn, dearly loved and loving husband of Margaret, on December 8th 1995 aged 86 years. Private Cremation. Family flowers only. Donations, if desired, to World Wildlife Fund.

FUNERAL ARRANGEMENTS

SWAN - The Lady Hilda. The funeral will take place at St Mary's Church, Boxford, Suffolk, on Saturday 16th December at 11 am.

IN MEMORIAM — PRIVATE

SALOME
A light to us all, Beauty personified, for a drop in time always part of our lives, forever in mine, a true daughter to me. Blessed be Salome.

LEES - Wendy on December 10th, 1994. Loving wife to John and devoted mother to Edward and Alice. She died as she had lived, with courage and with dignity "Let my name be ever the household word. All is well."

BIRTHDAYS

STORRY - Jack Storry, late '05 model. Congratulations on your 90th birthday with much love from all your family.

FLATSHARE

BARON'S Ct. W6 Very large room in attractive 3 bed house £125 pw inc (ex tel). Tel. 01373 834188/ 834216.

FLATMATES London's foremost (Est 1979) Professional flat sharing service. 0171-589 8491

MONTLAKE SW14, own dble room + n/s, m/f. £275 pcm from Jan. Tel: 0181 876 6943.

FOR SALE

THE TIMES - 1791-1995 other titles available. Ready for presentation - also " Sundays". Remember when. 0181-688 6325.

MORNING SUITS
DINNER SUITS
EVENING TAIL SUITS
SURPLUS TO HIRE
LIPMAN & SONS
West End Tel 0171 240 2310
22 Charing Cross Rd WC2
City Tel 0171 623 7721
156 Fenchurch St EC3

GIFTS

A BIRTHDATE Newspaper. Original. Superbly presented. Freephone 0800 906609

FLIGHTS DIRECTORY

COSTCUTTERS on flights & hols to Europe, USA & most destinations. Dividend Travel Services Ltd: 0171-730 2201, ABTA 28703 IATA/ATOL 1366.

CAPITAL FLIGHTS

PRICES FROM			
U.S.A.	£269	AFRICA	£298
CANADA	£179	AUSTRALIA	£465
BANGKOK	£348	CARIBBEAN	£255
SINGAPORE	£385	S.AMERICA	£345
DELHI	£279	JAPAN	£440
HONG KONG	£369	CUBA	£249

ALL EUROPEAN & W/W FLIGHTS AVAILABLE
0171 289 4030
ATOL 2529 ABTA

FLIGHTS DIRECTORY

GERMANY Daily low cost flights. 0181 429 2900. Visa/Access. ABTA 90685. ATOL 2529.

CHEAP FLIGHTS CENTRE

Athens	£69	Orlando	£149
New York	£179	Malaga	£59
Nice	£69	Faro	£69
Cairo	£179	Nice	£79
Sydney	£329	Palma	£59
Paris	£59	Toronto	£179
Rio	£299	Tel Aviv	£149

ALL WORLDWIDE & EUROPEAN BEST AVAILABLE AT DISCOUNT RATE
ATOL 2529
Tel: 01273 703737

VACATION TRAVEL

ENGLISH RIP.			
FARO	39	INDIA	39
MALAGA	65	GREECE	99
ALICANTE	39	MALTA	39
TENERIFE	79	TURKEY	139
LAS PALMAS	79	ISRAEL	129
LANZAROTE	79	CYPRUS	139

All Worldwide destinations avail. Telephone/Personal. Also open Saturday
0880 371855

ALICANTE	£59	PARIS	£39
PALMA	£59	CYPRUS	£99
CANARIES	£59	MOROCCO	£79
GREECE	£99	MALAGA	£59
MALTA	£99	GOA/INDIA	£269
ISRAEL	£125	ORLANDO	£189

All European & Worldwide Fixed Scheduled Flights/Tours Available. Telephone/Personal. Also open Saturday
VICKROY AIR INTERNATIONAL
01476 74111
ABTA E0761

TRAILFINDERS
Low cost flights worldwide
AND UP TO 65% DISCOUNT ON HOTELS & CAR RENTAL
Call Trailfinders for the complete tailor-made travel service
LONDON, Longhaul: 0171-938 3366
Transatlantic & Europeans: 0171-937 5400
First & Business Class: 0171-938 3444
BIRMINGHAM Worldwide: 0121-236 1234
BRISTOL Worldwide: 0117-929 9000
GLASGOW Worldwide: 0141-353 2224
MANCHESTER Worldwide: 0161-839 6969
First & Business Class: 0161-839 3434

FLIGHTS DIRECTORY

UP TO 60% DISCOUNT ON SCHEDULED FLIGHTS WORLDWIDE
WORLD LINK
Agents for ATOL consolidator
TEL: 0171 538 8273

OVERSEAS TRAVEL

PORTUGAL. All areas. Villas/apts., hotels, pousadas, golf hols, flights. Longmere Int'l. 081 668 2112. Retail agents. ABTA V6097

30 Somethings required for Xmas and New Year sailing binge in Carribean, cruise. Catered. Informal and fun. For information Tel. 01984 632816

UK HOLIDAYS

CENTRAL London. Superior serviced apartments. Tel:0181 451 3094 / Fax 0181 459 4422

MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS

VISIT US FOR A WARM WELCOME!
It may be cold outside, but in a Markson Piano showroom you're guaranteed a wide range of pianos for sale or hire. Upright, Grand & Digital. Hire a piano from only £20 per month with an option to buy later. Despite the weather, you'll get friendly and professional advice not a frosty reception!
MARKSON PIANOS
Established 1910
0171 935 8682 (NW1)
0181 854 4517 (SE18)

RENTALS

ARE YOU visiting London? Central Estates have quality flats and houses in Central London for long or short term rentals. 071 224 5775.

CHELSEA SW10 Luxury all new 1 double bed lf kit long/short let £350 pw 0171 373 8803

CHRISTMAS in Dublin. Exciting New 1st Class 2 bed Apts (Sleeps 5). Christ Church Hall, 21-27 Dec. £450pw & 28-05 Jan £400pw. 003531 6768384

FINCHLEY N3. Lge 3 bed dt hse newly decor. Nr tube. Ope £230pw. 0171 727 3237.

HAMPSTEAD - S. Newly decorated 2 bedroom flat Large ter race. £240pw 0171 886 9842

LONDON, SW10. Light & sunny top fl. flat + terrace, 1 bed, 1 rec, 1 bath, f/f kit. £260pw neg FW Capp 0171 243 0964

LONDON, NW1. Newly refurb 2 bed fl. bath, recep, f/f kit. furn/unfurn. Chr hire £225pw neg FW Capp 0171 243 0964

MAYFAIR. Curzon ST 2 bed fl £395pw S. Audley ST 1 bed immac £375pw 2 bed mews hse £450pw 0171 355 1156

SERVICES

PLUMP PARTNERS National Dating Agency. If you are plump or prefer a plump partner ring 01352 715909

SPECIALISTS

YOU should write a book. You can!? Then commission one. Hannah Renier 0171 582 4133.

TICKETS FOR SALE

TICKETS
5 NATIONS RUGBY
VARSITY MATCH
ERIC CLAPTON.
SIMPLY RED.
TINA TURNER.
ROD STEWART, BLUR
RIVERDANCE
MISS SAIGON, PHANTOM,
SUNSET, LES MIS, ALL POP,
THEATRE & SPORTS
TEL: 0171 323 4480
Great Portland Associates

ALL TICKETS Shows, Sports, Concerts. Cheap air fares worldwide. Tel 0171 839 5363

W.R.U. Debenture seats for sale (50 years) Best location Cardiff Arms Park 01446 730730

TICKETS FOR SALE

TICKETS FOR SALE
When responding to advertisements readers are advised to establish the face value and full details of tickets before entering into any commitment. Most sports tickets are subject to strict re-sale and transfer rules.

ALL TICKETS Int. Rugby, Phantom, Riverdance, Clapton, Simply Red, All major pop, sport & theatre. CC's accpt 0171 926 0088

WANTED

ALL CROCODILE items old leather luggage, trunks sporting items/militaria 0171 229 9618

ALL MASONIC Articles, Regalia, Jewels, Watches, Books etc Wanted Tel: 0171 229 9618

MINK COATS, fox coats purchased. Best price paid. All inquires/details to Box No 2180

TWICKENHAM DEBENTURES One pair of East or West stand, willing to pay premium Please Reply to Box No 2582

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BACK ISSUES of Newspapers available. Tel: 0800 906609

Remember The Donkeys And We'll Remember You!

Over 6,700 donkeys have been taken into care many from lives tormented by cruelty and neglect. A donkey is never turned away from our Sanctuary and never put down unless there is no longer any quality of life.

We need your help to continue rescuing donkeys and to secure their future on one of our nine farms. A bequest to the donkeys will help immensely and your name will be inscribed on our Memory Wall and will be blessed at our annual St Francis Day Memorial Service.

A copy of our "Guide to Making a Will" is available on request.



The Donkey Sanctuary,
(Dept TM), Sidmouth,
Devon, EX10 0NU.
Tel: (01395) 578222
Enquiries to Dr E. D. Svendsen, MBE
Reg. Charity No. 264818

هكذا من الأصل

OBITUARIES

PHILIP PIRATIN

Philip Piratin, Communist MP for Stepney, Mile End, 1945-50, died yesterday aged 88. He was born on May 15, 1907.



AT THE 1945 general election, the Communists confidently expected to retain West Fife, a seat held by Willie Gallacher since 1935. They also strongly hoped to gain East Rhondda, where their candidate was Harry Pollitt, the party's general secretary. In the event, Pollitt failed to win, while Phil Piratin, a newcomer with only an East London local reputation, romped home in the East End. He thus became one of the last two Communist MPs elected in Britain.

Piratin had run a tenacious, populist campaign for deep air raid shelters from 1938 onwards — against not only the Home Office but also the Labour-controlled Stepney Borough Council, of which he was the only Communist member. His most successful propaganda stunt had been to organise a mass sit-in of East Enders at the Savoy Hotel, which had lavish shelters for its guests. Eventually the visitors from Stepney were moved on — but only after Piratin had talked the waiters, against orders, into bypassing the half-crown minimum charge and selling them tea at 2d a cup.

Piratin always argued that meagre official shelter protection led to hundreds of unnecessary East End deaths (and he remained affected by the horrors he had seen during the bombing until the end of his life). Contemporary support for his case came from a series of articles written in 1940 by Ritchie Calder and C. H. Rolph for the *New Statesman*.

Piratin's triumph in 1945 at Mile End owed much to Labour's local complacency. He had won a reputation in the late 1930s as a sponsor of rent strikes in municipal blocks of flats. He had been a key figure in the Battle of Cable Street. A less dramatic factor was the wartime decline in Mile End's electorate. With only 5,075 votes Piratin won on a very low poll, using superb organisation — always his peculiar genius. But his own estimate of the votes he would require to win turned out to be altogether too high. And some of the support he did get, as "the local boy", almost certainly came from unexpected places. When he first won a council seat in 1937, his party's only candidate in a three-member ward, he had asked all his supporters to give their other two votes to Labour. But he won, only because 80 Tories gave him their third cross; he ascribed this to the popularity of his father, a local trader.

"My early life," he later wrote, "had no associations with the working-class movement." His father, an orthodox Jew, devoutly put down his poverty to God's will. Reaction against religion was the first sign of revolt in his son; Bertrand Russell was a key influence. In the 1920s he read Lenin, who mystified him. As a boy in the East End, he wanted to be an architect but left the local council school as a young teenager to join the fur trade; he was also briefly in the Merchant Navy.

In 1929 he married Beatrice ("Beatie") Silver, who later ran a milliner's shop. In 1936 they helped to feed the Jarrow hunger marchers. Many of their friends were Communists, but Piratin kept clear of the party until a Fascist rally at Olympia in 1934, when he saw anti-Fascists viciously manhandled by Oswald Mosley's stewards. With many others, he was repeatedly charged outside by mounted police. That night he joined the Communist Party.

In 1936, in the famous Cable Street confrontation, he co-ordinated observers, motorcyclists and first-aid posts in the battle to halt a Mosleyite march through a densely Jewish neighbourhood. In his volume of memoirs he recounted these events in passive, even neutral terms, making his own part hard to disentangle. (A more exciting version of what occurred that day is contained in Arnold Wesker's play *Chicken Soup with Barley*.)

Fighting slum landlords was Piratin's other major role. This had tactical overtones. The local Communist Party had encountered widespread political apathy in many blocks when it sought recruits. Piratin's plan was to encourage tenants to help themselves, and win — through non-payment — lower rents and active repairs. On occasion he brought out massed crowds to block eviction parties of bailiffs and the police. Rent strikes successfully spread from Stepney across London and the rest of Britain before the outbreak of war.

Unlike Gallacher and Pollitt, he was not a leading national figure when he was elected to the House of Commons in 1945. Politically, this had its advantages. His autobiography *Our Flag Stays Red* conveniently slides over the party's decision to support the Nazi-Soviet pact of August 1939; it also wholly ignores Stalin's show-trials.

Yet there was never any doubt about Piratin's own patriotism. As a wartime ARP warden, he sought to enrol in the Royal Navy. When his request was refused, he wrote to Herbert Morrison, by that time Home Secretary responsible for national security. Under later attack as a wartime civilian, he often cited Morrison's embarrassed reply, turning his request down.

It could, of course, be argued that he did more for the war effort as a party organiser in West Middlesex, where he pushed for higher output in aircraft factories through workers' production committees, than he could ever have done as an able seaman. In 1944, his first marriage having been dissolved, he married Cecilia ("Cisssie") Gresser.

It was only on becoming an MP in 1945 that he joined the Communist Party's executive and political committees. He and Gallacher, with radically different styles and backgrounds, worked easily together on every issue in the 1945-50 Parliament, except on the question of licensing, when they split sides (Gallacher being a teetotaler). Piratin also campaigned on industrial safety, only withdrawing a Private Member's Bill when Labour promised to introduce its own government legislation.

On the Palestine issue he denounced Bevin's pro-Arab bias. Later, however, he distanced himself from Zionism as "a nationalist heresy". (Israel was a problem for the Communist Party, with one in ten of its members reputedly being Jewish.) Yet Piratin never tried to conceal his own Jewish background. When Quintin Hogg, then a backbench Conservative MP, quoted a Latin tag in a speech in the Commons chamber, Piratin countered in Hebrew. "Two of us," he said, "can quote dead languages."

The highpoint, at least in terms of publicity, of his Commons career came when he was caught up in a fight with Thomas Lucy, a journalist, in the Commons cafeteria. Piratin said that he had been pushed in the back and abused as a Jew and a Communist. A fight followed. Piratin was found guilty of "gross contempt", Lucy of "contempt" by the Commons Committee of Privileges. The question of sanctions was left open after a stunningly long inquiry. Characteristically, Piratin said that he did not want Lucy to lose his job.

In 1950 Mile End became absorbed into a new seat, Stepney. Piratin fought it in that year's February general election but lost heavily to Labour — partly, no doubt, because of the many new voters who had no vivid recall of the events of the 1930s. Originally intending to stand again in 1951 (the Labour Government's overall majority was only six), he was forced to resign on being made bankrupt after losing a slander suit, with £1,500 damages awarded against him. In an East End speech, he had singled out Chief Superintendent Satterthwaite, head of the police in Hackney, as a Fascist sympathiser. He had made the same charge before, though prudently without naming names.

In 1954 he joined the *Daily Worker* as circulation manager. Sales were falling. *The Observer*, perhaps unkindly, speculated that he had been brought in to win back Jewish ex-readers, repelled by new evidence of Stalin's anti-Semitism. It was anyway a thankless task. He resigned in 1956, also giving up his other party posts.

He then went into business. His activities took in book-retailing and also East-West trading through companies linked to King Street. He did well, growing relatively prosperous and leaving the East End for Muswell Hill. A political role receded. In 1956 he endorsed the British party's backing for the Soviet Union's invasion of Hungary. But in 1968 he publicly criticised the Soviet occupation of Czechoslovakia, backing the British party's new anti-Soviet line.

He was constantly in demand as an after-dinner speaker in Communist circles — and, as a living archive, by political historians. In the late 1980s he saw *glasnost* as Gorbachev's "change of emphasis". In 1992 he joined Democratic Left, the successor to the former Communist Party of Great Britain.

His gifts were specific to an earlier era. They took in a flair for organisation, tenacity on the doorstep and a genuine nose for community issues. As an orator, he lacked all natural gifts. He once said that he always kept one hand in his pocket at the rostrum so as not to wag it at the audience.

His hobbies included chess, music and boating. His second wife predeceased him and in his latter years he owed much to the protective support of a partner, Lillian Temple.

He leaves a son from his first marriage and a daughter from his second.

RICHARD DINSDALE

Richard Dinsdale, former Editor of the broadsheet *Sun* and chairman of West of England Newspapers, 1969-72, died in Bexhill-on-Sea on December 2 aged 88. He was born on June 23, 1907.



DICK DINSDALE was an outstanding old-style Fleet Street journalist. Described by T. S. Matthews in his book *The Sugar Pill* as "a newspaperman's newspaperman", he was a stickler for accuracy and the originator of some memorable front-page headlines.

Although regarded primarily as a brilliant production technician, he established a reputation as an executive who demanded that stories should be written in clear and simple English. He disliked puns and gimmicky tabloid writing that made a story difficult to understand. He was renowned for his ringing cry of "I can't understand it, cock" when faced with a piece of tortuous writing.

Sub-editors and junior executives who made mistakes that got into the paper would fear for their future careers when ordered to attend his office the following day. But the dreaded interview was likely to result in the offer of a drink and a gentle warning not to do it again. Behind the tough professional was a kindly and sensitive man, respected and liked by those who worked closely with him.

He was not the founding editor of the IPC *Sun* — that dubious distinction belonged to Sydney Jacobson. But he sat longer in the editor's chair than Jacobson did and, though the paper was probably past revival once he took it over, he did turn it into a training ground for many of today's leading writers, newspaper executives and columnists. He himself was a tremendously hard worker — nearly always in the office by 10am, rarely leaving before midnight and keeping his hands on everything.

On one occasion a young reporter was sent to cover a major disaster in a village with instructions from Dinsdale to write a simple account of what was happening in the village before the catastrophe struck and what followed. The reporter phoned in a drama-ridden piece and was asked to write it again as instructed. He wrote another dramatic-tinged version. Dinsdale insisted that it should be written the way he had asked. The frustrated reporter then wrote the story without frills, just as Dinsdale had originally requested it. It won its writer an award for outstanding journalism.

Richard Lewis Dinsdale was born in Hull and started his career in traditional style as a teenage reporter on the *Hull Daily Mail*. He became successively chief sub-editor of the *Newcastle Evening World*, deputy chief sub-editor of the *Manchester Evening News* and deputy chief sub-editor of the *Daily Express* in Manchester. He then moved south to the *Evening News* and in 1940 joined the *Daily Mirror* as deputy chief sub-editor.

After war service, in which he was seconded into Intelligence, he rejoined the *Mirror*, becoming its deputy editor in 1955. With the then Editor, Jack Nener, he formed one of Fleet Street's most colourful teams at a time when the *Mirror*'s circulation was nearing five million. In 1961 Dick Dinsdale was seconded to the *Daily Herald* after the takeover of Odhams Press by IPC. When in September 1964 the *Daily Herald* was transformed into *The Sun*, Dinsdale became its deputy editor and was the Editor from 1965 until the paper was sold to Rupert Murdoch in 1969 and was transformed into a tabloid.

He then became chairman of West of England Newspapers until his retirement in 1972. At that time the Mirror group, which owned West of England Newspapers, ran a highly successful training scheme for young journalists, many of whom have themselves become distinguished newspapermen.

Away from newspapers, Dinsdale liked nothing better than to be on his boat *High Noon* with members of his family and friends.

Dick Dinsdale married Irene Laverack in 1930 and was widowed ten years ago. They had one daughter who died in 1991.

DOROTHY JEAKINS

Dorothy Jeakins, Hollywood costume designer, died in Santa Barbara, California, on November 21 aged 81. She was born on January 11, 1914.



Dorothy Jeakins, left, with Tony Huston, centre, and John Huston, right, on the set of *The Dead*, 1988

AS A costume designer nominated 12 times for an Academy Award, Dorothy Jeakins was a talent to be reckoned with in Hollywood. She was known as a director's designer, never on the payroll of a major studio for more than one movie at a time. Though this meant that she never achieved the name-recognition of Edith Head, who for several decades supervised costumes for the entire Paramount Studios output, she nonetheless won an Oscar for costume design on three occasions.

Jeakins's first award came with her very first picture, Victor Fleming's 1947 production of *Joan of Arc*, which starred Ingrid Bergman and Jose Ferrer. Fleming, who had a reputation for terrifying all those who worked for him, had hired the then gawky and painfully shy Jeakins as a sketch artist. She had previously worked for Walt Disney, drawing Mickey Mouse, and as a fashion artist for department stores. But when the temperamental Fleming fired his costume designer Karinska, and insisted that Jeakins took over the job, her life was instantly changed.

A second Oscar followed swiftly when Jeakins designed the costumes for Cecil B. De Mille's *Samson and Delilah* (1949) with Victor Mature and Hedy Lamarr. Jeakins went on to work frequently with such directors as John Huston, Martin Ritt, Robert Wise and William Wyler. Among her credits were *The Sound of Music*, *The Way We Were*, *The Misfits*, *Reflections in a Golden Eye*, *The Ten Commandments*, *The Greatest Show on Earth*, *The Music Man*, and *Night of the Iguana*. The last won her a third Oscar in 1964.

Dorothy Jeakins was born in San Diego, California. Her childhood was less than orthodox. When she was only five years old her father, whom she described as "a man who wore expensive clothes and lived in cheap apartments", took her away from her mother, a society dressmaker, and hid her in a series of foster homes. She never discovered what happened to her mother.

Jeakins won a scholarship to the Otis Art Institute in Los Angeles, and worked for the Work Projects Administration during the Depression before finding her way to Hollywood and the Walt Disney Studio.

She rarely related to actors, seeing her work as literary. "What concerns me most is the canvas," she once said. "The canvas is the script, and the designer is the painter." The important question any designer should ask of him or herself, she said, was: "What colours do you put on the canvas, and why?" The only letter of appreciation she ever received from an actor was from Sean Connery, whom she dressed for the 1970 film *The Molly Maguires*, a movie about a secret society of Irish mineworkers in 19th-century Pennsylvania. "Your clothes made me feel like a coal-miner," he wrote. For Dorothy Jeakins that was praise enough. Her own appreciation of her work was brief and to the point: "In the middle of the night I can put my world down to two words: make beauty — it's my cue and my private passion."

In addition to her work in Hollywood, Jeakins designed costumes for numerous Broadway stage productions, including *South Pacific*, *King Lear*, *Major Barbara* and *The World of Suzie Wong*. She also worked in television, costuming Mary Martin in *Annie Get Your Gun*, and Audrey Hepburn and Mel Ferrer in *Mayerling*.

In 1961 Jeakins went on a Guggenheim fellowship to Japan to study traditional Japanese costume in Noh drama. The pencil drawings and watercolours which she did there were later widely exhibited. She was the curator of textiles at the Los Angeles County Museum of Art from 1967 to 1970.

Her last film *The Dead*, made in 1988, was that of one of her favourite directors, John Huston. The muted colours of her costumes reflected the oppressive quality of the Joycean Dublin in which the story was set. They showed all the unmistakable subtlety of the Jeakins touch.

Dorothy Jeakins is survived by two sons from a brief marriage which ended in divorce in 1946.

PETER GOODALL

Peter Goodall, CBE, TD, former executive chairman of Hepworth Ceramic Holdings, died on November 30 aged 75. He was born on July 14, 1920.



PETER GOODALL was a prospering solicitor in Yorkshire when Hepworth's invited him to join them thirty years ago. Faced with school fees and the other commitments of middle age, it took him a further two years to make up his mind. But the gamble paid off handsomely when he did so — both for him and for the Sheffield-based firm.

As he rose from being a director, 1967-70, to become managing director, 1970-77, then chief executive and executive chairman, 1977-86, Hepworth's climbed with him. Profits soared from £1.3 million to £36 million within 12 years as the company acquired other businesses. From making drainage pipes for the British market, it became a giant building materials group, exporting to more than 100 other countries and owning plants in most parts of the world. He was appointed CBE in 1983 in recognition of his services to exports.

Born at Mirfield, Yorkshire, Peter Goodall was the son of a local solicitor who had won both the DSO and the MC while serving as a major with the Duke of Wellington's Regiment in the First World War. At Ashville College, Harrogate, the young Goodall attracted attention through his sporting rather than scholastic achievements, playing rugby, hockey, cricket and tennis for the school and developing into an accomplished competitive swimmer.

He also showed an early appetite for risk-taking, once smuggling himself out of the school in a laundry basket to see a Ginger Rogers film in the town. Before sitting his Higher School Certificate history paper, he troubled only to swot up half the syllabus, gambling on the right questions coming up. They did — and he came top throughout the county.

His ambitions to go to university, however, were cut short by the Second World War. A member of the Territorial Army, he was commissioned into his father's old regiment from where he volunteered to become a paratrooper and was posted to The Parachute Regiment's 12th Battalion. But this time the risk he took ended in disaster. Severely injured in the legs and shoulders in a parachuting accident early in the war he spent two years in hospital learning to walk again. That much he did achieve. But his injuries, inflicted when Goodall was little more than 20, effectively ended his sporting career and forced him to carry a stick throughout his life. They also ruled him out of the front line during the war. On being discharged from hospital he was posted as adjutant to the airborne forces depot at Hardwicke Hall, Derbyshire, in the rank of captain. The compensating factor was that he met there his future wife Sonja, then an ATS captain responsible for Hardwicke Hall's catering.

On being demobilised after the war, he joined his father in the family law firm of Goodall & Son and worked from dawn until well after dusk studying for his finals. Admitted as a solicitor in 1948, he eventually succeeded his father as senior partner and built up a highly successful practice throughout the area, developing contacts through his work on company law. It was through these contacts that he attracted the interest of Hepworth's.

First known as Hepworth Iron Company, the firm became Hepworth Ceramic Holdings in 1970 after merging with General Refractories — who made bricks to line the kilns in which Hepworth's pipes were fired. The company became a major supplier for British Steel and Pilkington Glass and is now known simply as Hepworth.

Goodall himself travelled extensively throughout the world as well as taking up other appointments in this country. He joined the council of the CBI and of British United Industrialists and enjoyed the company of both Margaret and Denis Thatcher. He was also a friend and admirer of Keith Joseph.

He retired in 1986, however, to indulge himself with his two chief recreations — shooting and fishing. He shot pheasant and grouse at all the best shoots in Britain and fished for salmon and sea trout in Scotland. But he took care never to walk far while out shooting and always carried his stick when wading with rod and line into Scotland's fast-flowing rivers.

Despite being a determined businessman who never turned down a challenge and never gave up until he had beaten it, Peter Goodall was in many ways a private, shy man with a subtle sense of humour.

He is survived by his wife Sonja and by one son and a daughter.

Appointments in the Forces

Royal Navy and Royal Marines

COMMODORE: M D Macpherson - MOD London 30.4.96.

CAPTAIN: E C Atkinson - MOD London 15.12.95; J M Parkinson - MOD London in rank of Cdre 11.3.96.

COMMANDER: S Bramley - MOD London 24.5.96; S B Charlier - Northumberland in Cmd 8.4.96; I K Goddard - Staff of FOSF 19.4.96; C J Holgate - Portsmouth FMRO 22.12.95; C F Podmore - Loan DRA Haslar 15.3.96.

LOCAL LIEUTENANT COLONEL: R M Rundle - RMR Merseyside as CO 8.2.96.

MAJOR: I W Grant- HQRM 22.3.96; S R Wilson - 539 Aslt Sqn RM as OC 22.3.96.

Retirements

CAPTAIN: D R Miller - 5.1.96.

COMMANDER: T J H Gedge - 1.3.96; N W Sweny - 23.2.96.

LOCAL LIEUTENANT - COLONEL: A C L Smith - 27.1.96.

The Army

BRIGADIER: R C Wolverson - To MOD, 12.12.95; J M J Balfour To be Comd 3 Inf Bde HQ & Sig Sqn, 11.12.95; A D Duncan - To be Comd 19 Mech Bde HQ & Sig Sqn, 11.12.95; D H Godsal - To be Comd 2(SE) Bde & Dover/Shorncliffe Gar, 15.12.95; J S W Powell - To be Comd 43 (Wessex) Bde, 11.12.95.

COLONELS: I J Entwistle - To AGIC, 11.12.95; S C Matthews - To 3(UK) Div, 11.12.95; P J Pritchard - To BLO (USA), 15.12.95; C S Sibun - To HQ Land, 13.12.95; P J Barry - To IMS Brussels, 11.12.95; J R Durance - To HQ Land, 11.12.95; A H Goldsack - To HQ AFCENT (Staff), 11.12.95; N J H Hinton - To MOD, 11.12.95; A R M Smith -To HQ RLC TA, 11.12.95; C M Steirn - To 3(UK) Div. 11.12.95.

LIEUTENANT COLONELS: A J Boyd RA CH D - To Rhine Trps UKSC(G), 14.12.95; P G Cattermole RA CH D - To RMCS, 11.12.95; C A Findley AGC (PRO) To 3(UK) Div. 11.12.95; J H Gordon RGJ - To be CO 2 RGJ, 11.12.95; R E Harrold R Anglian - To be CO 1 R Anglian, 12.12.95; J B Hastings RLC - To P&EE Shoeburyness, 11.12.95; J Hutchins 9/12L - To MOD, 11.12.95; M L Jackson WFR - To CATC, 16.12.95; C A Le Hardy LD - To be MA/AA The Hague, 11.12.95; P Lilleyman RE - To MOD, 13.12.95; P J Mercer WFR - To be CO 1WFR, 11.12.95; D S B Phipps R Anglian - To JHQ IT, 11.12.95; M S Reid R Signals - To IMS BRUSSELS, 11.12.95; J A Ris RE - To MOD, 11.12.95; G T Robey GH - To HQ Inf, 11.12.95; R A Rosenhead AGC(SPS) - To AGC Trg Cen, 11.12.95; R G Rowe R IRISH - To MOD, 11.12.95; I M G Strong R SIGNALS - To HQ LONDIST, 11.12.95; J C Walmisley RE - To HQ Strike Comd, 11.12.95.

Retirement

COLONEL: S J Abate late REME, 14.12.95.

Royal Air Force

AIR COMMODORE: A G B Valance - SHAPE, 15.12.95; T W Rimmer - MOD, 15.12.95.

GROUP CAPTAIN: P N O Plunkett - HQ STC, 11.12.95; M A Rogers - HQ LC, 15.12.95; D J Pocock - HQ LC 15.12.95; A J R Banks - HQ PTC, 15.12.95; M J Pettifer - HQ PTC, 15.12.95; B M Wynn - HQ LC, 15.12.95.

WING COMMANDER: P C Dingwall - MOD, 4.12.95; E G N Acons - RAF Scampton, 4.12.95; D Charlton - RAF Rudloe Manor, 4.12.95; B J Emmett - HQ STC, 4.12.95; J D Rodford - Porton Down, 4.12.95; L FOX - RAF Shawbury, 4.12.95; R E V Clark - RAF Honington, 4.12.95; T Instanley - RAF College Bracknell, 11.12.95; P J Hughesdon - RAF Marham, 11.12.95; M C Bullock - RAF Innsworth, 11.12.95; L Singleton - HQ PTC, 11.12.95; M J G Wiles - HQ STC, 11.12.95; C B Wait - HQ LC London, 11.12.95; T J Patch - HQ LC London, 11.12.95.

Retirements

AIR COMMODORE: B E A Pegnall - 14.12.95; A F JOHNSON - 14.12.95.

THE "ALL QUIET" FILM

(From Our Own Correspondent)

BERLIN, Dec. 10

Members of the Cabinet today saw the film *All Quiet on the Western Front* at the Ministry of the Interior. Although the film has been passed as quite fair to German arms, it is thought that the Chief Censor may yield to the pressure that is being put on him and revoke the licence. The semi-official Wolff Agency suggests that the Foreign Office, which previously "had no objections" to the film, will, if again consulted, answer differently. Tomorrow will show, the Socialist *Vorwärts* says, whether in Germany, and only in Germany, it is to be forbidden to show the ugly side of war.

The film, however, is only a pretext for a political demonstration. Last night the Wittenberg Platz and Tauentzienstrasse, which compare approximately with Oxford-circus and Oxford Street, were alive with foot and mounted police. Public traffic was stopped, and private citizens had to make long detours while the demonstration, mostly youths who were children during the War, marched about shouting abuse of the Jews and singing Nazi choruses. These young men came swinging down side streets in compact groups, jostling passers-by. There were several encounters with the police who, in one place, fired warning shots. A Nazi deputy was arrested for obstructing the police and today fined £9.

A "SURREALISTE" FILM

(By Our Own Correspondent)

PARIS, Dec. 10

The police have appealed to the Film Censorship Commission to reconsider, in the interests of public order, the licence granted for the release of the film *The Golden Age*, produced by Mr. Bunuel, which has been shown for the last 10 days at Studio 28. Pending the decision of the commission, the film will not be shown. *The Golden Age*, which was produced with the moral support of the "Surréaliste" group of painters and authors and the financial help of a patron of modern art, has achieved a notoriety disproportionate to its artistic merits. The expected disturbances did not take place until the seventh or eighth night. Indeed, the whole affair seemed about to sink into oblivion when a group of "*Jeunesses Patriotes*" threw a bottle of ink at the screen, broke up the hall, and destroyed the "*Surréaliste*" books and pictures on sale in the foyer.

THE NOBEL PRIZE WINNERS

(From Our Correspondent)

OSLO, Dec. 10

The distribution of this year's Nobel Prizes to Dr. Soederblom, Archbishop of Upsala, and to Mr. Kellogg, a former United States Secretary of State, took place today in the Hall of the Nobel Institute with the usual ceremonies. M. Mowinckel, the Prime Minister, paid a tribute to the work of Mr. Kellogg and the Archbishop of Upsala, and said that in the work of peace the temporal and spiritual powers could well co-operate. He also praised M Briand's efforts to bring about the outlawry of war.

ON THIS DAY

December 11, 1930

Erich Maria Remarque's bestseller All Quiet on the Western Front *became a celebrated film. Neither book nor film was liked by all Germans — particularly the Nazis.*

NEWS

Boy asks for his murdered father

■ The son of the murdered headmaster Philip Lawrence has written to Father Christmas asking for his Daddy back so that his Mummy and sisters can stop crying.

Lucien Lawrence's letter was released as the family gathered for a private Mass at their home in Ealing yesterday. In the letter, the eight-year-old boy said he hoped he was not being a nuisance, but he had changed his mind about wanting a telescope for Christmas ..... Pages 1, 3, 16, 17

Drivers told to take care in freezing fog

■ Motorists were advised to beware of freezing fog today which is expected to paralyse traffic. The warning came as dense fog patches cut visibility yesterday to less than 50 yards in parts of the South and East and up to 100 cars were involved in a pile-up on the M1 ..... Page 1

Crowns saved

Three historic crowns worn by six successive British monarchs at Coronations have been saved from the threat of export by the generosity of a brother of the world's richest man ..... Page 1

Ministers rally round

Senior Cabinet ministers rallied round Brian Mawhinney after it emerged that the Tory party chairman had been given a dressing down by Lord Mackay, the Lord Chancellor, over the leaking of a draft speech he did not deliver ..... Page 2

Branson accusation

Richard Branson, chairman of Virgin, has accused a member of the board of Camelot of offering him a bribe to drop his bid to run the National Lottery ..... Page 2

Guard's sacrifice

A security guard who was beaten and stabbed to death is believed to have given his life to protect two female colleagues ..... Page 2

Congressman quits

A black American politician has given up one of the safest seats in Congress to try to rescue America's largest and oldest civil rights group from bankruptcy ..... Page 8

Love story

A spinster who never recovered from losing her sweetheart during the war has given the lifeboat station that searched for him £400,000 in her will ..... Page 5

Tories stand down

David Howell became the fiftieth Tory MP to announce that he will not be a party candidate at the next general election. John Major is becoming anxious that an unprecedented number have said they will retire ..... Page 6

Backyard planet

A planet up to 400 million miles away has been discovered by an amateur astronomer from his garden shed in Berkshire. Page 7

Strike moves

A desire to end the two-week strike that has paralysed France is evident among ministers and union leaders but a solution remains elusive ..... Pages 1, 8

Chinese court battle

A team of lawyers, including two former US Attorney-Generals, is trying to get to Peking for the defence of Wei Jingsheng, China's leading dissident ..... Page 9

French decision

France will spell out this morning what action it plans to take if the Bosnian Serbs fail to provide information on its two missing pilots ..... Page 10

General's fight

Speaking to audiences of businessmen, soldiers and the public, General Aleksandr Lebed is near the end of a punishing election tour which has seen him become one of the most feared politicians in Russia ..... Page 11

Mary swears in BBC Nativity play

■ BBC Radio 1 listeners who tune in on Christmas Eve will hear a new version of the Nativity. The pop station play will feature "Joey" for Joseph and portrays Mary as a moody character who calls Joseph a "bastard". The play is written in the American strip-cartoon style of Judge Dredd and nicknamed "Judge Jesus" by those working on it ..... Page 5

PETER ANDREWS



One of the Bosnian Army's Muslim brigades marches through Zenica in a demonstration of strength by 10,000 soldiers. Page 10

BUSINESS

Leeson: The rogue trader whose dealings led to Barings collapse, must decide by Tuesday whether to appeal against his 6½ year prison sentence ..... Page 40

Transport: The CBI has criticised the Government over its policy saying that Britain should increase its spending by £2 billion per year, the majority of which should be funded by the Government ..... Page 40

Pay rise: Company directors' pay rose by almost 11 per cent during the past year according to Incomes Data Services, the independent pay analysts ..... Page 40

Dearer beer: Fullers, the West London brewers, calculate that Labour's plans to introduce a minimum wage will raise the price of a pint of beer by 10p ..... Page 37

ARTS

World first: Twyla Tharp's new ballet for Covent Garden stretches the full-length format into new and exciting territory and makes the Royal Ballet look terrific ... Page 13

Christmas theatre: A fringe production of *Arabian Nights* offers a thousand and one delights but the Hammersmith Lyric's production of *Hansel and Gretel* goes horribly wrong ..... Page 12

Pop giants: East 17 don't exactly challenge their young audiences but they certainly know a thing or two about merchandising . Page 12

Close call: For a time it was a close thing whether there would be more people on stage than in the audience, but in the end the 24-strong Netherlands Chamber Choir was outstripped by punters ..... Page 12

FEATURES

A mother's story: Angelica Hadley was just four and a half when she complained of a headache. Three days later she was dead .... Page 15

Lights, action: Joanna Pitman meets the remarkable Haas family, who directed, edited, cast and star in the new film *Angels and Insects* ..... Page 15

MIND AND MATTER

Codes in the head: The fate of the world's financial markets is in the hands — and heads — of a group of mathematicians, says Dr Marcus du Sautoy ..... Page 14

Richter predictor: Nigel Hawkes on a method of predicting earthquakes which could save thousands of lives ..... Page 14

METROPOLITAN ART MUSEUM



TOMORROW

IN THE TIMES

■ MAN OF ART
A first ever British retrospective for Emil Nolde, the great German Expressionist

■ ROUGH JUSTICE
Are we in danger of going down the road to a vengeful Mad Max society?

Football: Yorke and Stone scored fine goals as Nottingham Forest continued their 16-match unbeaten home run to hold the resurgent Aston Villa to a 1-1 draw at the City Ground ..... Page 21

Boxing: Paul Ryan, who took the British and Commonwealth lightwelterweight titles when he knocked out Ross Hale in the first round, is demanding a world title chance ..... Page 22

Cricket: Alan Lee says England's agreement to terminate early their four-day match against Boland may have serious repercussions for the game ..... Page 23

Football: Wolverhampton Wanderers, who await the appointment of a new manager, took advantage of an inadequate Luton defence to move out of the first division relegation zone ..... Page 27

Rugby league: Unfancied Carlisle produced a gritty display, but failed to overcome Leeds in the quarter-finals of the Regal Trophy ..... Page 28

Rugby union: Injuries took the gloss off Western Samoa's victory over South West, as the visitors prepare to play England on Saturday ..... Page 29

Racing: Britain is sadly lagging in the invitation stakes, says Clement Freud ..... Page 30

LOTTERY NUMBERS

5, 11, 12, 26, 29, 33. Bonus: 20

Preview: Tony Benn takes his video camera into unexpected places. *Westminster Behind Closed Doors* (BBC2, 7pm). **Review:** Lynne Truss wonders if Saturday night ITV is worth staying in for ..... Page 39

A teacher dies

The death of Mr Lawrence has made us reflect once more on the state of our society. Let it also spark a pragmatic debate about changes in the law ..... Page 17

Safety first

Sadly, anyone living in Moscow now has to agree that without the smack of firm government, reform will be strangled ..... Page 17

Crowns international

An advantage of being such an old trading country is that foreign traders like it well enough here to preserve what is special about it ..... Page 17

WILLIAM REES-MOGG

It may be a pity that headmasters have to fight the battle for order, though they all do, even in the most selective schools ..... Page 16

ANTHONY HOWARD

Experience is the one card that Tony Blair will not be able to play at the next election. Give or take a former under-secretary or two, there is not a single member of his team who has known what it is to play even a minor role in a Whitehall department ..... Page 16

Philip Piratin, Communist MP for Mile End; **Richard Dinsdale,** Editor of the broadsheet *Sun*; **Dorothy Jeakins,** designer ..... Page 19

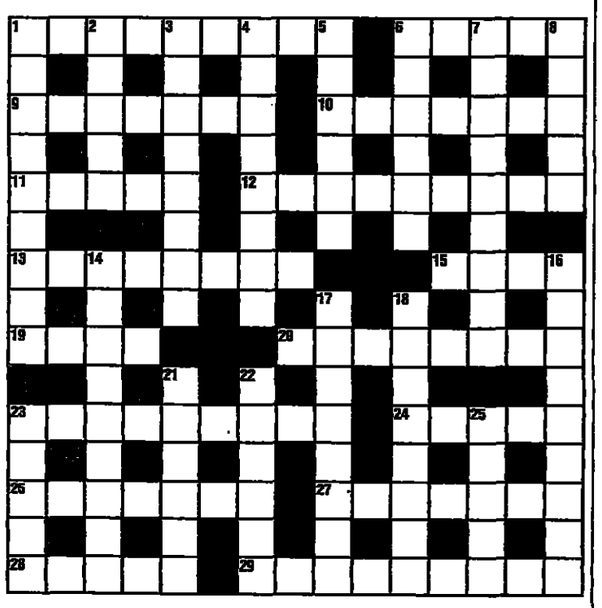
Asylum; BSE; women priests; headmaster's murder ..... Page 17

On Human Rights Day, let it be confirmed that some truths are globally self-evident and that a society deserves to be judged, be its treatment of those least able to defend themselves

— New York Times

In making a commitment to pull ground forces out in 12 months President Clinton embraced a constraint that may work against accomplishment of the American mission *— The Washington Post*

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 20,035



ACROSS

1 A step soon involved in talc production (9).
6 Petition Conservative Party (5).
9 Bond hit the drink (7).
10 Honoured companion, prepared to fight, won (7).
11 Social distinction of about fifty going in to dine (5).
12 Profession making financial provision for the future (9).
13 Candidates — maybe nine? Some, anyway (8).
15 There's endless bookwork for the boss (4).
19 An indication soldiers must turn north (4).
20 Shy with press, though not yielding (4-4).
23 Town boards shown around flat (9).
24 Land depicted in main diagram (5).
26 Constant suffering (7).
27 A rascal (and others) can get cash advance (7).
28 Tree — a variety of elm? No (5).
29 Speculator making use of the upswing in gold (9).

DOWN

1 Workers after fabric get some with stripes (9).
2 The smallest change in a friend can come as shock (5).
3 Working on pictures for this gallery? (8).
4 Passé, but striking, and not without admirers (8).
5 Realise she can change (6).
6 Name of girl poet called out (6).
7 Carpet and cross seen in a cathedral (9).
8 Provide quarters — outstanding (5).
14 Drawing ability (9).
16 Present fellow actors to the Queen in town (9).
17 Being by the water, liked sea to be rough (8).
18 Southern traveller who's prepared for take-off? (8).
21 Abdicate and bring son in to rule (6).
22 Jack to hit, for example (6).
23 Come to a stop — the way everybody will do (5).
25 Outfit put in good order (5).

Times Two Crossword, page 40

KNOCKANDO

The solution of Saturday's Prize Puzzle No 20,034 will appear next Saturday. The five winners will receive a bottle of Knockando, a superb Speyside Single Malt Scotch whisky and a fine leather credit card wallet.

TIMES WEATHERCALL

For the latest region by region forecast, 24 hours a day, dial 0891 500 followed by the appropriate code

Greater London	701
Kent,Surrey,Sussex	702
Dorset,Hants & IOW	703
Devon & Cornwall	704
Wilts,Glouce,Avon,Soms	705
Berks,Bucks,Oxon	706
Beds,Herts & Essex	707
Norfolk,Suffolk,Cambs	708
West Mid & Sth Glam & Gwent	709
Shrops,Herefds & Worcs	710
Central Midlands	711
East Midlands	712
Lincs & Humberside	713
Dyfed & Powys	714
Gwynedd & Clwyd	715
N W England	716
W & S Yorks & Dales	717
N E England	718
Cumbria & Lake District	719
S W Scotland	720
W Central Scotland	721
Edin S Fife/Lothian & Borders	722
E Central Scotland	723
Grampian & E Highlands	724
N W Scotland	725
Caithness,Orkney & Shetland	726
N Ireland	727

Weathercall is charged at 39p per minute (cheap rate) and 49p per minute at all other times.

AA ROADWATCH

For the latest AA traffic/roadworks information, 24 hours a day, dial 0336 401 followed by the appropriate code:

London & SE traffic, roadworks	
Area within M25	731
Essex/Herts/Bods/Bucks/Berks/Oxon	732
Kent/Surrey/Sussex/Hants	734
M25 London Orbital only	736
National traffic and roadworks	
National motorways	737
West Country	738
Wales	739
Midlands	740
East Anglia	741
North-west England	742
North-east England	743
Scotland	744
Northern Ireland	745

AA Roadwatch is charged at 39p per minute (cheap rate) and 49p per minute at all other times.

HIGHEST & LOWEST

Yesterday: Highest day temp: St Mary's, Isles of Scilly, 12C (54F); lowest day max: Benson, Oxfordshire, -2 (28F); highest rainfall: Lerwick, Shetland, 0.37ins; highest sunshine: Hayling Island, Hampshire, 6.9hrs.

FLIGHT SAVERS

£58

LONDON TO EDINBURGH OR GLASGOW

Phone Air UK on 0345 666777 or contact your travel agent. All major credit cards accepted. Subject to availability and airport tax. Restrictions apply. AirUK

FORECAST

☐ **General:** Much of England and Wales will have a foggy and frosty start to the day, especially in southern parts. The fog will clear slowly and may linger all day in some areas.

Where the fog does clear, there should be some brighter spells, but southern counties are likely to remain grey and overcast.

Scotland and Northern Ireland could also have some fog patches at first, but these should clear to leave a dry and bright day. It is likely to be windy across Shetland.

☐ **London, Central S, SE, S England, E Anglia, E, W Midlands:** Fog clearing slowly, if at all. Remaining grey and overcast in all areas. Wind northeast light. Max 5C (41F) but 1C (34F) where fog lingers.

☐ **Central N, NE, NW England, N Wales, Lake District, Isle of Man, Borders, Edinburgh & Dundee, SW Scotland, Glasgow:** Any fog slowly clearing, perhaps lingering in a few places. Then dry with some bright spells. Wind light and variable. Max 6C (43F).

☐ **Channel Isles, SW England, S Wales:** Misty start. Cloudy at times, but some bright spells likely as the day progresses. Wind east, light to moderate. Max 6C (43F).

☐ **Aberdeen, Central Highlands, Moray Firth, NE, NW Scotland, Argyll, Orkney:** Dry with bright or sunny intervals. Wind mainly southerly light. Max 8C (46F).

☐ **Shetland:** Dry with bright spells. Wind southerly, moderate to fresh. Max 8C (46F).

☐ **N Ireland:** Some mist at first. Dry with bright spells. Wind mainly southerly light. Colder than yesterday. Max 8C (46F).

☐ **Outlook:** Occasional rain in the north for a time. Dry elsewhere. Feeling quite cold in the south.

AROUND BRITAIN YESTERDAY

24 hrs to 5 pm: b=bright; c=cloud; d=drizzle; ds=dust storm; du=dull; f=fair; fg=fog; g=gale; h=hail; r=rain; sh=shower; sl=sleet; sn=snow; s=sun; t=thunder

	Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F			Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
Aberdeen	4.7	-	10	50	s	London	0.3	-	3	37	fg
Anglesey	5.9	-	11	52	s	Lowestoft	2.3	-	4	39	b
Aspatria	1.4	-	9	48	b	Manchester	4.3	-	8	46	s
Aviemore	4.3	-	10	50	s	Margate	3.5	-	7	45	b
Belfast	1.9	-	7	45	b	Minehead	2.7	-	4	39	s
Birmingham	5.4	-	5	41	s	Morecambe	-	-	6	43	du
Bognor R	6.5	-	4	39	s	Newcastle	4.0	-	10	50	b
Bournem'th	4.2	-	5	41	b	Newquay	X	-	-	-	-
Bristol	-	-	1	34	fg	Norwich	3.1	-	6	43	b
Buxton	4.1	-	3	37	s	Nottingham	X	-	-	-	-
Cardiff	4.7	-	3	37	fg	Oxford	-	-	0	32	fg
Colwyn Bay	5.1	-	8	46	s	Penzance	-	-	10	50	du
Cromer	X	-	6	43	s	Plymouth	X	-	-	-	-
Doncaster	X	-	-	-	-	Poole	4.8	-	4	39	s
Dunbar	X	-	-	-	-	Prestatyn	X	-	5	41	s
Eastbourne	5.5	-	8	43	s	Ross-o-wye	3.7	-	0	32	s
Edinburgh	0.8	-	8	46	b	Ryde	X	-	-	-	-
Eskdalemuir	-	-	6	43	fg	Salcombe	X	-	-	-	-
Exmouth	0.5	-	7	45	c	Sandown	5.9	-	7	45	s
Falmouth	0.4	-	11	52	c	Saunin Snd	5.2	-	8	46	s
Fishguard	6.8	-	8	48	s	Scarboro'	3.3	-	6	43	s
Folkestone	5.3	-	6	43	s	Shanklin	X	-	6	43	b
Glasgow	0.8	-	9	48	b	Shrewsbury	2.8	-	4	39	b
Guernsey	4.2	-	11	52	s	Skegness	X	-	-	-	-
Hastings	5.5	-	8	43	s	Southend	-	0.01	3	37	fg
Hayling L	6.9	-	6	43	s	Southport	3.9	-	5	41	b
Herne Bay	5.4	0.01	6	43	s	Southsea	5.5	-	6	43	s
Hove	4.4	-	7	45	b	St. Ives	X	-	-	-	-
Hunstanton	2.9	-	3	37	s	Stornoway	1.5	-	11	52	b
Ilfracombe	6.0	-	7	45	s	Swanage	-	-	7	45	c
Isle of Man	3.6	-	11	52	b	Teignmouth	-	-	7	45	c
Jersey	-	-	7	45	fg	Tenby	X	-	-	-	-
Kinloss	2.3	-	11	52	b	Tiree	0.6	-	11	52	c
Leeds	3.5	-	9	48	b	Torquay	-	-	8	46	c
Lerwick	-	0.37	9	48	d	Tynemouth	X	-	-	-	-
Leuchars	2.1	-	8	46	b	Ventnor	2.5	-	7	45	b
Littlehmptn	4.1	-	3	37	b	West-s-mare	X	-	-	-	-
Liverpool	4.6	-	5	41	s	Weymouth	2.5	-	7	45	b

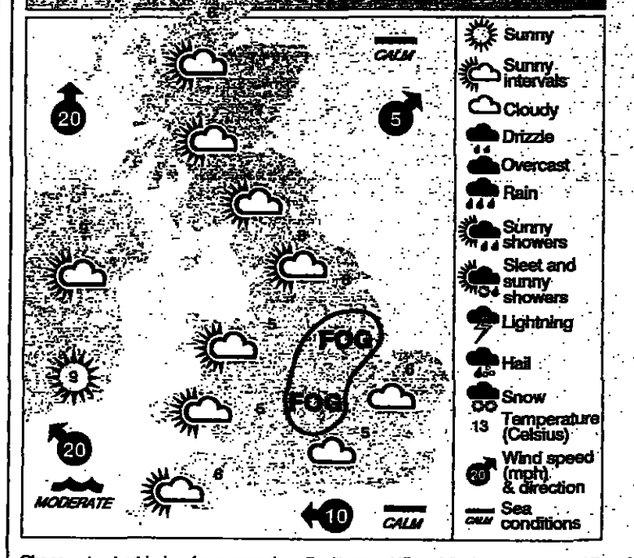
ABROAD

Ajaccio	16	61	c	Corfu	16	61	s	Majorca	16	61	f
Akrotiri	19	66	f	C'phagn	1	34	c	Malaga	14	57	f
Alex'dria	21	70	f	Dublin	5	41	c	Malta	20	68	f
Algiers	19	66	f	Dubrovnik	14	57	c	Melb'rne	19	66	s
Amst'dm	0	32	s	Faro	15	59	s	Mexico C	20	68	s
Athens	10	50	c	Florence	11	52	f	Miami	27	81	s
B Aires	20	68	s	Frankfurt	0	32	f	Milan	7	45	c
Bahrain	19	66	f	Funchal	17	63	c	Montreal	-12	10	-
Bangkok	27	81	s	Geneva	3	37	c	Moscow	-5	23	c
Barbados	X	-	-	Gibraltar	14	57	s	Munich	-1	30	c
Barcelona	16	61	f	Helsinki	-3	27	s	N Delhi	22	72	s
Beirut	18	64	f	Hong K	19	66	s	N York	2	36	s
Belgrade	3	37	c	Innsbruck	3	37	s	Nairobi	25	77	f
Berlin	0	32	s	Istanbul	6	43	f	Naples	16	61	f
Bermuda	20	68	f	Jeddah	29	84	s	Nice	10	50	f
Biarritz	7	45	f	Karachi	29	84	s	Oslo	-2	28	sn
Bordo'x	8	46	c	L Angels	17	63	s	Paris	0	32	fg
Brussels	2	36	s	L Palmas	18	64	d	Peking	3	37	s
Budapst	3	37	s	Le Touet	1	34	c	Perth	22	72	s
Cairo	21	70	s	Lisbon	12	54	c	Prague	0	32	c
Cape Tn	23	73	s	Locarno	5	41	c	Reykjavik	1	34	f
Ch'church	27	81	-	Luxembg	0	32	f	Rhodes	16	61	s
Chicago	-1	30	f	Luxor	27	81	s	Rio de J	28	82	f
Cologne	2	36	s	Madrid	8	46	c	Riyadh	20	68	s

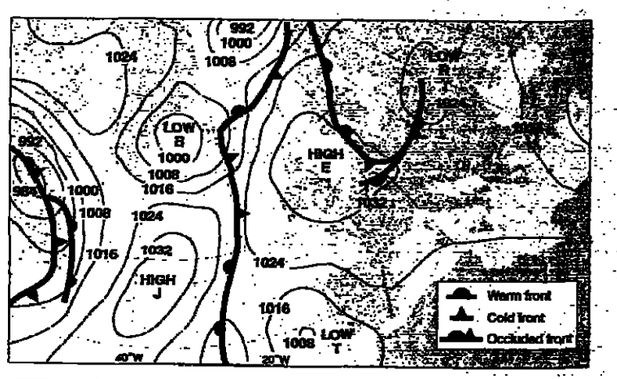
Rome	16	61	f	Tangier	15	59	f	Vanc'ver	-4	25	s
S Fr'sco	12	54	d	Tel Aviv	17	63	f	Venice	7	45	f
S Paulo	30	86	c	Tenerife	22	72	f	Vienna	0	32	c
Salzburg	-1	30	c	Tokyo	11	52	s	Warsaw	-3	27	s
Santiago	21	70	s	Toronto	-3	27	c	Wash'ton	4	39	s
Seoul	1	34	s	Tunis	18	64	f	Wel'ngton	20	68	s
Sing'por	29	84	f	Valencia	14	57	f	Zurich	-1	30	c
St'kholm	1	34	sn								
Strasb'rg	1	34	s								
Sydney	24	75	f								

Temperatures at midday local time. X = not available

UK OUTLOOK



Changes to chart below from noon: Low B will move NE and fill. High J will move E and join High E. Low T will fill and lose its identity. Low R will sink S and fill.



HIGH TIDES

TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT	TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	3:43	6.7m	4:14	6.6m	Leith	4:47	5.1m	4:59	5.1m
Aberdeen	3:39	3.9m	3:45	4.0m	Liverpool	1:14	8.7m	1:28	8.6m
Avonmouth	9:18	12.1m	9:40	11.8m	Lowestoft	11:58	2.3m	11:56	2.4m
Belfast	1:04	3.1m	1:22	3.5m	Margate	1:49	4.5m	2:12	4.4m
Cardiff	9:07	11.4m	9:24	10.9m	Milford Haven	8:23	6.4m	8:44	6.1m
Devonport	7:49	5.2m	8:12	4.9m	Newquay	7:21	6.2m	7:39	5.9m
Dover	1:05	8.4m	1:14	8.2m	Oban	7:48	3.8m	8:12	3.6m
Dublin	1:40	3.7m	2:03	3.6m	Penzance	6:52	5.1m	7:10	4.9m
Falmouth	7:21	4.8m	7:35	4.6m	Portland	8:30	1.9m	8:56	1.8m
Glasgow	3:11	4.1m	3:20	4.0m	Portsmouth	1:23	4.5m	1:52	4.4m
Harwich	1:44	3.6m	2:07	3.7m	Shoreham	1:11	5.0m	1:15	5.7m
Holyhead	0:23	5.1m	0:37	5.2m	Southampton	0:48	4.3m	1:03	4.3m
Hull	8:31	6.7m	8:37	7.0m	Swansea	8:21	8.7m	8:51	8.4m
Ilfracombe	8:02	8.5m	8:26	8.2m	Tees	5:57	4.8m	6:07	5.0m
King's Lynn	8:30	5.8m	8:44	6.0m	Wilton-on-Nze	1:33	3.9m	1:58	3.9m

Crown copyright reserved. All tide times are GMT

HOURS OF DARKNESS

Sun rises: 7.56 am
Sun sets: 3.52 pm
Moon sets: 10.24 am
Moon rises: 8.25 pm
First quarter etc

London 3.52 pm to 7.57 am
Bristol 4.02 pm to 8.08 am
Edinburgh 3.39 pm to 8.34 am
Manchester 3.50 pm to 8.15 am
Penzance 4.20 pm to 8.12 am

©TIMES NEWSPAPERS LIMITED. 1995. Published and printed by Times Newspapers Ltd at 1 Virginia Street, London E1 9XN, telephone 0171-782 5000 and at Knowsley Park Industrial Estate, Kirkby Road, Prescot, Merseyside, L34 9HN, telephone 0151-546 2000. Monday, December 11, 1995. Registered as a newspaper at the Post Office.

هكذا من الاصل

هكذا من الاصل

TENNIS



22
Ivanisevic plays his aces and reaps rich rewards

CRICKET



23
Tradition at stake in match of low principle

FOOTBALL



25
Cole still searching for his finishing touch



28
Edwards foregoes cash in his quest for gold

TIMES SPORT

MONDAY DECEMBER 11 1995



Ehiogu, left, the Aston Villa defender, clashes with Lee during a freezing Midlands derby yesterday. The 1-1 draw preserved Forest's 16-game unbeaten run at the City Ground. Photograph: Ian Stewart

Villa spectacularly denied third place in Premiership

Stone's strike saves Forest

Nottingham Forest 1
Aston Villa 1

BY ROB HUGHES
FOOTBALL CORRESPONDENT

FOR THE greater part of this Midlands derby, the freezing mist seeping into the bone, Aston Villa looked well capable of slipping into third place in the FA Carling Premiership, and just as capable of divesting Nottingham Forest of an unbeaten home run that stretches back 16 games to last January. Then, with so many Forest supporters having drifted away, abandoning their team and all hope, came a goal from Steve Stone that illuminated the afternoon.

Stone, whose international career with England is just blossoming, was 22 yards out when he suddenly decided he had the beating of Bosnich, and the power to save the afternoon. His shot, struck with the right foot, soared upwards towards the net with such precision, such deceptive power and pace, that it beat the Australian goalkeeper decisively and found its mark in the far top corner of the goal ... quality that thrilled us all, warming the 25,790 spectators who had been there from the kick-off.

Until that strike, Villa, totally rebuilt at a cost of £14 million from the side Brian Little inherited one year ago, had looked by far the better balanced side, had shown the greater desire, had played away from home as if it were they and not Forest who were the pride of England at present. In a way, Forest had pre-empted their own struggle, for their manager, Frank Clark, had chosen to leave out Ian Woan for the first time this season as "a disciplinary" measure.

Woan's sin had been to moan publicly. He had told a newspaper of his protracted struggle to be paid a better wage and, to boot, had offered the opinion that he thought Nottingham Forest had little or no chance of defeating Bayern Munich in their Uefa Cup quarter-final in March.

The statements were considered tantamount to subversion and, though Clark had once been the trade unionist defending Forest players against the severity of Brian Clough's punishments, he now displayed a harshness of his own.

Possibly there is more of Clough in Clark than the latter's quiet style sometimes reflects. Woan was put in his place and the Norwegian, Haaland, drafted in. There may also have been a pragmatic alternative motive for this, for Haaland was to spend much of the afternoon trying to ensure that Draper did not orchestrate the Villa midfield.

As it was, Aston Villa had other ideas, alternative ploys. Their two full backs — in this system operating as wing backs — are not only quick and mobile, but they can actually pass the ball. This gives Villa an impetus going forward that Forest, laid back as if the negativity of their



Stone: quality goal

Lyons mission was still in mind, found difficult to counter. Moreover, the eager opportunism of Johnson, who tried and missed five long-range shots, gave Villa an effervescence, and Dwight Yorke gave them another dimension.

This man from the warm climes of Tobago demonstrated throughout that he has the balance, the quickness, the sureness of touch and movement, that could be tailor-made for a December pitch in the English Midlands, a pitch full of uncertain footholds despite the effects of undersoil heating.

So it was not surprising when, shortly after the second half began, Yorke put Villa ahead. The move was quick and precise and cut Forest to shreds. Charles passed to Yorke, he moved the ball on to the Serb, Milosevic, and nimbly evaded what remained of the Forest rearguard to accept the return ball. With a stroke of his left foot, low and firm along the ground, Yorke despatched his tenth goal of this season.

Forest had to stir. Just on half-time, Haaland had squandered an opportunity when Gemmill's twenty-yard shot was deflected by Bosnich, but the Norwegian struck the outside of a post from six yards. Then, in the 51st minute, Gemmill floated the ball over from the left; Haaland ghosted between the centre backs, Southgate and Bosnich stood mesmerised, but Haaland wastefully headed the ball over the inviting crossbar.

At this stage, it seemed that Forest missed Bryan Roy more than Villa pined for the absent Townsend and McGrath, both of whom were withheld by Jack Charlton for duty with Ireland against Holland on Wednesday night. One reason was that Southgate, for the most part, assumed the command at the back that McGrath usually holds, assumed it with an authority that may well endear him to Terry Venables, the England coach.

Another was that, at his side, Riccardo Scimeca, making his full debut at 20 and born, despite the name, in Leamington, looked a player made for this level of football. More than once this tall, lean athlete came striding out of defence, showing the very skill that English football is crying out for.

And yet Villa should still have won the game at the other end. Before and after Stone's spectacular goal, Milosevic ought to have put the result beyond doubt.

When Draper found the big Serb lurking alone behind Forest's lines, Milosevic had only to make firm contact with his head, but his action was lazy, a shade presumptive, and Crossley from point blank range some how beat the ball away.

Then, in the dying moments, Crossley hit the ball desperately against Milosevic. It rose over the crossbar, and a long unbeaten run was blessed.

NOTTINGHAM FOREST (4-4-2): M Crossley — D Lyttle, C Cooper, S Chettle, S Pearce — S Stone, A-I Haaland, C Bart-Williams, S Gemmill — S Howe (sub: A Silenzi, 80min), J Lee
ASTON VILLA (3-5-2): M Bosnich — U Ehiogu, G Southgate, R Scimeca — G Charles, M Draper, I Taylor, T Johnson, A Wright — D Yorke, S Milosevic
Referee: P Durkin

Chelsea war and peace, page 24
Venables counts injuries, page 25
Results and tables, page 26
Sunderland's joy, page 27

HOW A LITTLE YEAR HAS MADE A BIG DIFFERENCE FOR ASTON VILLA

DECEMBER 12 1994

Bottom six

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
17 QPR	18	5	4	9	27	35	19
18 Everton	18	4	6	8	15	24	18
19 West Ham	18	5	3	10	12	21	18
20 Aston Villa	18	3	7	8	21	29	16
21 Leicester	18	3	4	11	19	33	13
22 Ipswich	18	3	2	13	17	37	11

DECEMBER 11 1995

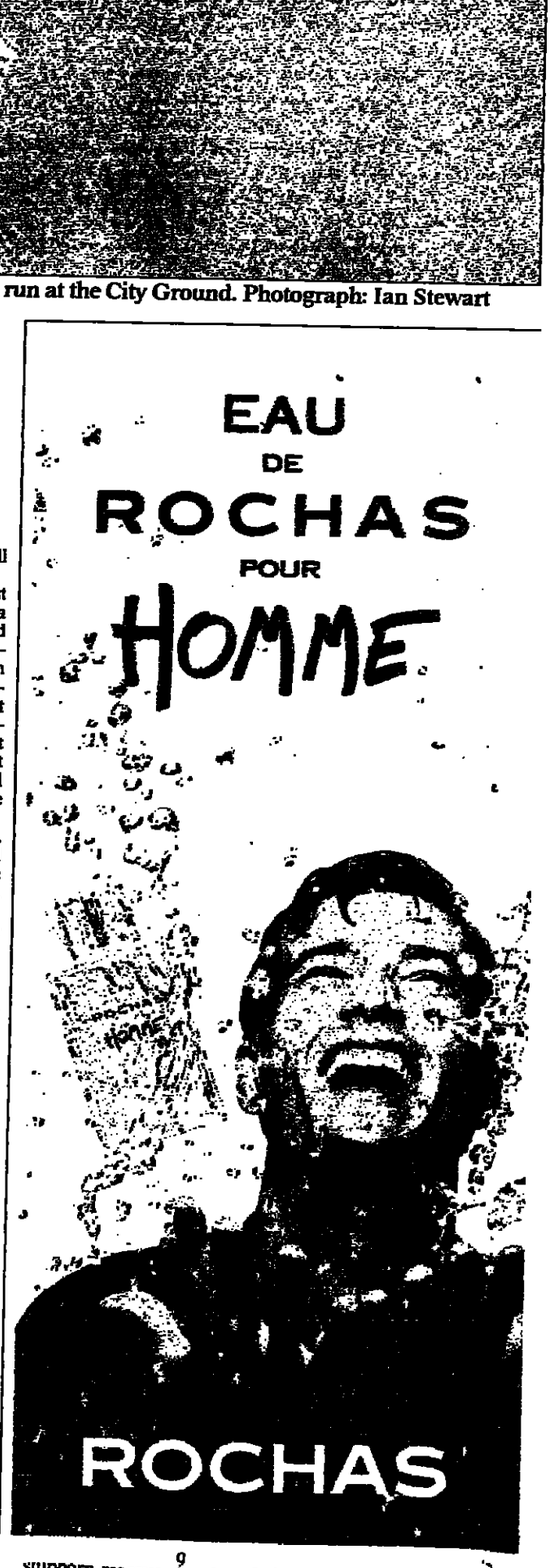
Top six

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
1 Newcastle	17	12	3	2	36	15	39
2 Man Utd	17	10	5	2	35	17	35
3 Arsenal	17	8	6	3	22	11	30
4 Middlesbrough	17	8	6	3	19	11	30
5 Tottenham	17	8	6	3	23	17	30
6 Aston Villa	17	8	5	4	21	13	29

Aston Villa's league record this season

P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
43	16	15	12	52	41	63

EAU DE ROCHAS POUR HOMME



ROCHAS

Uphill struggle to top up downhill delights



MATTHEW BOND

TV ACTION REPLAY

An air of quiet crisis hangs over the sport of skiing. A fragile pound, unpredictable snow and the gradual realisation that a week at home spent ripping up £5 notes might be a cheaper form of exercise, have all dampened the traditional British enthusiasm for recreational skiing. And with it has gone much of the interest in skiing as a serious television sport — if you have not got a week at Val d'Isère to look forward to, does it really matter who skis fastest down the OK piste at La Daille?

The answer, according to most national newspapers and the BBC, is no. Luc Alphand's victory in *le premier neige* merited little more than a paragraph in even the heavyweight Sunday papers, while *Grandstand* shoe-horned two runs over a shortened course (lack of snow meant the race could not be decided by a single run) into just 20 minutes.

The same highlights could be seen again yesterday, as *Ski Sunday* limped back on to BBC2 for its nineteenth season with a running time of 35 minutes. Even the famous bah-da-da-dum theme tune was sounding a little flat. As David Vine admirred, he had never seen Val d'Isère so empty.

But, if Britain will no longer go to the mountain, then the mountain must come to Britain. That, at least, is the view of Eurosport, which, over the past four days, has shown, by my rough calculations, more than 13 hours of live winter sports. Saturday alone took in more than five hours of live coverage — starting with cross country from Davos, then the men's downhill at Val d'Isère, before finishing in the next valley for freestyle from Tignes. Such commitment of resources by the pan-European satellite channel is impressive, but whether anyone in Britain was actually watching is another matter.

No such doubts, however, exist in the mind of Nick Fellows, the lead Eurosport commentator for alpine disciplines. The former British downhill racer commentates as he used to ski. It is fast, exciting and, for those who hold the English language dear, occasionally rather alarming. While Vine combines clock-watching with traditional BBC economy ("yes", "no", "oops") the impeccably-researched Fellows favours a downhill stream of consciousness approach, often taking in a skier's form, personal life and drinking habits in a single, endless, sentence. English grammar may be the casualty but the enthusiasm of Fellows is infectious.

His stated belief is that people will start watching skiing again if the World Cup competitors can be taken out of their anonymous goggles and catsuits and turned into walking, talking sporting personalities. A mixture of boyish charm, outrageous flattery and a pragmatic approach to plugging sponsors persuaded an impressive list of skiers to join him in the commentary box. For obvious reasons, north American contestants such as Pikabo Street, Tommy Moe and Rob Boyd predominated but, thankfully, France has at last produced a downhill champion who can speak English. Luc Alphand popped in casually for a quick chat between runs on Saturday.

By turning his commentary into a two-way conversation with such distinguished guests, Fellows neatly got round the problem presented by watching more than 50 competitors ski down the same course. The need to record faithfully every wobble, every split time, is rewardingly diminished. After all, we can see those things as well as he can, what we want is added value. Fellows duly delivers and, if he could just get out of the habit of answering his own questions, he would deliver even more.

Full marks, too, to Eurosport for staying on air until Graham Bell, now the only British representative on the men's downhill circuit, had completed his run. Gary Lovejoy, who joined the channel as director of broadcasting from ITV last month, almost got his reward. Bell missed out on a top 30 place and a second run by just two hundredths of a second. Oh well — it is back to praying for fresh snow and a devaluation of the franc.

Walker and Nicol lead challenge

THE British challenge to Australia's domination of the Mahindra Challenge squash tournament reaches the semi-final stage in Bombay today with Chris Walker, of England, facing the top-seeded defending champion, Rodney Eyles, and Peter Nicol, of Scotland, taking on Brett Martin, the 1993 champion and No 2 seed (Colin McQuillan writes).

The Australians are in fine form. Martin needed just 35 minutes to remove Angus Kirkland 15-11, 15-11, 15-9 from the quarter-finals last night, and the Sussex man might consider himself lucky to have escaped the extraordinary blitz with which Martin defeated an impressive younger Australian, Byron Davis, the previous evening. Nicol came through to Martin's semi-final with a 42-minute 15-11, 15-4, 15-12 win over Julien Bonetat, of France. Results, page 31

Sheffield move up

ICE HOCKEY: Sheffield Steelers moved into second place in the British League premier division after beating Fife Flyers 12-2, with Tony Hand involved in nine of the goals. Nottingham Panthers were beaten 6-2 by Durham Wasps with Ross Lambert scoring twice. Cardiff Devils are still top of the division, but had to be content with a draw in a physical encounter with Basingstoke Bison. At the bottom of the table, Newcastle Warriors gained their second win of the season, beating Humberside Hawks 11-4.

Ice pair reign supreme



ICE SKATING: Jayne Torvill, right, and Christopher Dean yesterday won their fourth world professional title in Landover, Maryland. The British pair collected nine 10.0s to take the dance gold, beating a field that included Marina Klimova and Sergei Ponomarenko, the 1992 Olympic champions. Their every move was cheered by the capacity crowd.

Britain on march

TENNIS: Greg Rusedski and Tim Henman, Britain's top two players, both produced impressive form to secure a 3-0 victory against Ireland in the first division of the European men's team championship in Dublin on Saturday night. Henman, 21, played the opening rubber and beat John Doran 6-1, 6-2. Rusedski beat Scott Barron 7-5, 6-2, although the Irishman did well to take the first set to 12 games.

Durham oust holders

BOWLS: Cumbria, the holders, failed to qualify for the quarter-finals of the Liberty Trophy when they were beaten 165-94 by Durham at Stanley, a venue described by Tony Broadbent, the Cumbria secretary, as "so often our graveyard in the past". Durham will play Northamptonshire on January 20, when the other ties will be Yorkshire v Cornwall, Essex v Hampshire and Wiltshire v Norfolk.

Male still dominant

RACKETS: James Male, the world champion, underlined his dominance of the sport as he overpowered Willie Boone 15-7, 15-4 to win the Lacoste British amateur championship at Queen's Club. Male made almost no unforced errors against Boone, himself a former world champion and playing near the top of his form in his 21st amateur championship final.

Battling display



CRICKET: Karen Smithies, right, led the England women's team to a successful first day of the third and final international against India in Hyderabad yesterday, despite a traumatic journey from Delhi that did not see them arrive until 10.30 the previous evening. Clare Taylor took four for 38 to bowl India out for 184. England finished on five for no wicket.

Arsenal ease to victory

FOOTBALL: Arsenal Ladies, attempting to defend the double they won so convincingly last season, beat Liverpool Ladies 3-0 at Highbury on Saturday. Goals by Sanchez, Pealling and Broadhurst settled a match designated as England's representative for Fifa's "The Day the World Played Football", a 24-hour worldwide football extravaganza to celebrate the UN's fiftieth anniversary.

Surprise in Honolulu

ATHLETICS: Josiah Thungwane and Colleen de Reuck, of South Africa, were the surprise winners of the Honolulu Marathon yesterday. With 34,000 starters, the race looks set to overtake the New York and London events and become the biggest marathon in the world. Thungwane, 25, won in 2hr 16min 08sec, outsprinting the Kenyan favourite, Benson Masya, over the last 100 metres.

Report lays blame for Senna crash on team

BY OLIVER HOLT

ANY feelings of good cheer that may have been generated by the Williams Formula One motor racing team's Christmas party on Saturday night disappeared in the dank December air yesterday. The trickle of information about the inquiry into the death of their former driver, Ayrton Senna, suddenly turned into a flood, and the allegations laid the blame for his crash at Imola last year squarely at Williams's door.

It has long been assumed that the 190mph accident at the Tamburello curve on May 1, 1994, had not been caused by any shortcomings in the driving of the near-infallible three-times world champion. Steering failure of some form has always been the favoured explanation and, in the continued absence of the official report, a series of leaks have backed that theory up.

The comments attributed in the *News of the World* yesterday to Professor Enrico Lorenzini was reported as saying. "It had been badly welded together about a third of the way down and could not stand the strain of the race. We discovered scratches on the crack in the rod.

"It seemed like the job had been done in a hurry but I can't say how long before the race. Someone had tried to smooth over the join following the welding. I have never seen anything like it."

Under Italian law, someone has to be accountable for a violent death, and the makers of the car and the officials of the circuit in question can be prosecuted for manslaughter if the evidence suggests that flaws in the vehicle or the circuit are partly to blame. When Jochen Rindt was killed at Monza in 1970, Colin Chapman, the owner of the Lotus team that Rindt was driving for, did not return the next year, and the one car that the team entered was submitted under a different name.

Senna, who had joined Williams at the start of the 1994 season, is thought to have asked the team to change the position of his steering wheel so that he could see his instrument panel better, necessitating modifications. Lorenzini, who has submitted a 600-page technical report to Maurizio Passarini, the Italian magistrate dealing with the case, said that this meant two rods of different diameters were welded together some time before the race.

"The thicker part was below and the difference in diameter was made up by a joint welded on to the hollow tune," Lorenzini is reported to have said. "That is where the break happened. I believe that the rod was faulty, probably cracked, even during the warm-up. And moments before the crash, only a tiny piece was left connected and therefore the car did not respond in the bend. The cause of the accident was the snapped steering rod. It is obvious."

Williams and their lawyer, Roberto Causo, have always maintained that the steering column was fractured as a result of the crash, and that it was working perfectly until the moment of impact. Yesterday, the team said what little it could. "The findings of the investigation into Ayrton's accident are being considered by the magistrate, Maurizio Passarini," Head said. "The comments published today are unofficial. We are currently awaiting Mr Passarini's official report and cannot make any further comment until this has been published."



Senna: requested change

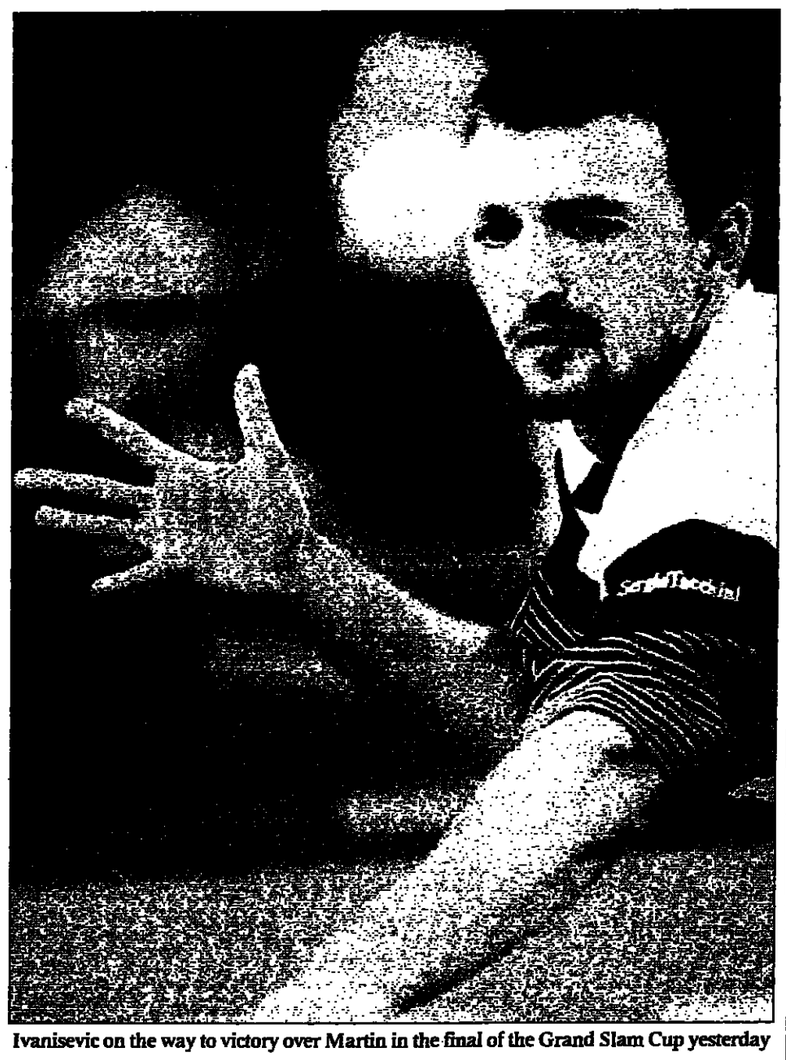
Lorenzini, the man leading the investigation into the cause of the accident and the head of the engineering department at Bologna University, mean that there can be little doubt left. If his comments are reproduced in the official report, it raises the regrettable prospect of key Williams personnel like Frank Williams, the team owner, and Patrick Head, the technical director, facing manslaughter charges if they return to Italy.

Lorenzini said that shoddy welding on the restructured steering rod on Senna's Williams-Renault caused it to snap before it hit the concrete wall at Tamburello. Senna was fatally injured when a suspension rod sheared off and pierced his helmet. He died a few hours later at Maggiore Hospital in Bologna.

"The rod joining the steering wheel to the wheels was virtually sliced in half."

Ivanisevic hits jackpot with aces

FROM STUART JONES
TENNIS CORRESPONDENT
IN MUNICH



Ivanisevic on the way to victory over Martin in the final of the Grand Slam Cup yesterday

Goran Ivanisevic has ended his worst year with his best and most lucrative triumph. With a characteristic fusillade of aces yesterday, he won the first significant trophy of his turbulent and largely unfulfilled tennis career, the Grand Slam Cup, which was worth in excess of £1 million.

On a surface that might have been specifically designed to enhance his most penetrative weapon, he held his service throughout the final against Todd Martin and completed it with an irresistible flourish. His last four blows were all aces to lift his total for the year to over 1,000.

"I don't think I can play any better or be more concentrated," he enthused. "At last I've proved that I can play a big final in a big way."

Twice the runner up at Wimbledon, the 24-year-old Croatian has never collected a grand slam championship. Indeed, he has won only 11 titles. Nor did he foresee that his fortunes would change inside the Olympiahalle. For two months he had been "sick, ill and losing in the first round of every tournament", as he put it.

Bob Brett, despairing of Ivanisevic ever realising his full potential, had also stopped acting as his coach, a job he had fulfilled for four years. Ivanisevic came here with "a loose arm", free of tension and left with enough money to replace his old Porsche and enrich the foundation he has set up for needy children in his homeland. In beating Petr Korda, Yevgeny Kafelnikov and Martin he earned £120,000 a set or £3,440 every minute he was on court.

Martin also profited to a degree which even he could not justify. For his five days work, he picked up appreciably more prize-money than he had for his other 71 matches during the year.

"I don't think I deserve this much," he admitted. "We are all making a ridiculous amount this week."

His game wavered once he had yielded the tie-break in the opening set. A couple of listless errors when he was 4-3 down cost him the second and another needless mistake, at 3-3 in the third, sealed his feat. He went down 7-6, 6-3, 6-4 in an hour and 44 minutes.

Ivanisevic's service remains delightfully uncomplicated. He plants his feet rigidly a yard apart, throws the ball up and whacks it, a symphony in three easy movements. When the motion is fluent, he cannot be resisted. In nine sets here, he struck 86 aces, the equivalent to winning 21½ games to love.

With black socks atop white shoes he was the picture of sartorial inelegance but, even though he is without a mentor to guide him, he has inexplicably found a rhythm which has eluded him for more than a year. He last won a title in Tokyo 14 months ago.

Given his wild temperament, no one can predict whether he will maintain his form, especially as the holder of the Grand Slam Cup is seemingly cursed. With the exception of Michael Stich in 1993, every winner has dropped in the world ranking and experienced misfortune during his reign.

Pete Sampras lost 11 of his first 27 matches in 1991, David Wheaton reached the semi-final of only one tournament in 1992, Korda won only une grand slam match in 1994 and Magnus Larsson this year broke his leg. There is, evidently, a high price to pay for the cup's lavish riches.

Nevertheless, Ivanisevic can scarcely fare any worse in the grand slam championships than he did this year. He was knocked out in the first round of the Australian, French and US Opens.

Laslett goal doubles up for Britain

THE Great Britain men's hockey team had little difficulty defeating Belgium twice in Brussels, a 1-0 victory yesterday following a 3-1 win on Saturday (Sydney Friskin writes).

David Whitaker, the Britain coach, commended Belgium for their aggressive approach which differed from their outlook on Saturday, which was mainly defensive.

"We had to fight all the way and that was really good for us," Whitaker said. "This time the Belgians were prepared to come at us, putting the defence under a lot of pressure. With the Olympic qualifier in January, we needed a hard game like this."

Jason Laslett, appointed Britain captain last week, scored the decisive goal yesterday in the 37th minute, chipping the ball over the head of the advancing Belgium goalkeeper, Michel van Oost. The move had been initiated by Danny Hall, the Guildford player, with Nick Thompson and Shaw linking up in support.

Calum Giles scored twice for Britain from short corners on Saturday, adding to an early goal on the follow-up by Laslett, to establish a 3-0 lead by half-time. De Chaffoy replied for Belgium in the second half during which Britain made several changes.

Ryan falls on his feet instead of his face

BY SRIKUMAR SEN, BOXING CORRESPONDENT

INSTEAD of falling on his face, as the experts predicted he would in his bout with Ross Hale, the British and Commonwealth light-welterweight champion, Paul Ryan, of Hackney, fell on his feet on Saturday and received a double Christmas bonus.

After knocking out the champion from Bristol in the first round, to the surprise of everyone, including his supporters, at York Hall, Bethnal Green, he was in the money. He had put £500 on himself to win at 7-2 and he also learnt that he could be in line for a lucrative challenge for the world title in the new year — against Oscar De La Hoya, one of the best boxers in the world.

Ryan's victory made him the No 1 in the World Boxing Organisation (WBO) rankings and, as De La Hoya, the WBO lightweight champion, is expected to lift the light-welterweight title when he moves up to challenge Sammy Fuentes, the champion, the American will have to defend against the little-known hero from Hackney.

But Ryan is not going to rush into the challenge. He is going to savour his success and defend the titles on February 10 on the undercard of the Naseem Hamed versus Arnulfo Castillo bill.

"I've got the belts, the only things I haven't nicked I'm going to keep," said Ryan who had been in and out of prison, including Wormwood Scrubs, six times before he turned to boxing five years ago. "If I hadn't discovered boxing, I could be doing a stretch," he said.

The bout itself was over with three heavy blows, a left and two rights. The first right floored Hale, who got up at eight. He ran round the ring backwards but was caught by the second right and went down again, this time for the count. Hale had been expected to knock Ryan out in four rounds but the Bristol man did not even put up a fight.

The final heavyweight title fell into place for Mike Tyson to clean up when Frans Botha, of South Africa, won the International Boxing Federation (IBF) championship in Stuttgart by beating Axel Schulz, of Germany, on a split decision — later changed by officials to a unanimous verdict when they realised there had been a mistake and that all three judges had voted for the South African.

The decision was not received well by the crowd, many of whom threw beer glasses and other missiles in to the ring when the scores were announced.

Turnstile view, page 28

Doyle takes over top cycling job

TONY DOYLE, twice a world professional track champion, yesterday ousted Ian Emmerson from his ten-year tenure as president of the British Cycling Federation (BCF) at its annual meeting in Manchester (Peter Bryan writes).

The secret ballot went 40-32 in Doyle's favour and was a vote for the charisma of a rider who fought back from a near-fatal crash in Munich four years ago, only to announce his retirement, at 37, this autumn because of a serious back injury.

Doyle did not enter mainstream cycling politics until last year, when he became the first BCF director of track racing. A strong critic of his senior colleagues, Doyle was persuaded to run against Emmerson.

His support yesterday indicated considerable disenchantment with the first year's restructuring of the BCF, particularly its failure to attract new and younger members and coaching facilities.

Emmerson retains his international influence as vice president of the Union Cycliste Internationale, the world controlling body, and senior positions with the European Cycling Union, the British Olympic Association and the Commonwealth Games Council for England.

THE TIMES
SNOWLINE
0891 333 568
24hr skiing information direct from the resorts in:
AUSTRIA • FRANCE • SWITZERLAND • ITALY
REST OF EUROPE • N. AMERICA/CANADA
SPAIN/ANDORRA • ROMANIA/BULGARIA
Or for a faxed report, dial:
0891 662 258
from a telephone linked to a fax machine
WEATHERLINE 0891 333 462
Comprehensive outlook in the skiing areas for the week ahead
SKI CLUB
Up-to-date information on all Scottish ski resorts
0891 200 627

SNOW REPORTS

	Depth (cm) L	U	Conditions Piste	Off/p	Runs to resort	Weather (5pm)	°C	Last snow
AUSTRIA								
Galtur	15	50	fair	varied	fair	sun	8	3/12
(Generally good; some icy/worn patches)								
Ischgl	30	70	good	varied	fair	fine	4	3/12
(Plenty of good, early-season skiing available)								
St Anton	20	110	fair	varied	fair	fine	2	4/12
(Good above Galzig; many runs now have rocky patches)								
CANADA								
Lake Louise	80	115	good	varied	good	snow	19	10/12
(All lifts open, fresh snow and good skiing)								
FRANCE								
Alpe d'Huez	20	80	fair	varied	art	sun	4	7/12
(Skiing still restricted to ten lifts and ten runs)								
Tignes	15	80	hard	varied	art	sun	3	8/12
(Glacier good but very busy; home run very challenging)								
ITALY								
Cervinia	0	120	fair	varied	closed	sun	3	2/12
(Open runs skiing well but choice of pistes limited)								
SWITZERLAND								
Davos	10	40	fair	varied	worn	sun	8	3/12
(Good selection of runs available; 23 of 55 lifts open)								
Mürren	15	70	fair	varied	closed	sun	0	3/12
(Birg and schilthorn open with six lifts operating)								
Wengen	5	20	hard	varied	closed	sun	2	3/12
(Open pistes skiing surprisingly well, nine of 23 lifts open)								
Zermatt	0	80	fair	varied	closed	fine	3	2/12
(Klein Matterhorn glacier and part of Sunnegga open)								
UNITED STATES								
Vail	80	125	good	varied	fair	fair	4	10/12
(Ski area virtually fully open, mostly very good)								

Source: Ski Club of Great Britain. L — lower slopes; U — upper; art — artificial.

هكذا من الأصل

Officials abrogate responsibility

England abandon principle for day of triviality



Alan Lee, cricket correspondent, deplores a decision that took no account of the game's traditions

One of the nobler traditions of cricket was surrendered in Paarl, South Africa, on Saturday and the potential repercussions are alarming. When England agreed to terminate their four-day first-class match against Boland, and fill the unused final day with a limited-overs thrash, they were party to a precedent for anarchy. If this principle is to be invoked, any future match in which conditions are not to the players' liking can be called off at their whim and fancy.

Cricketers are fond of saying that they willingly play in whatever conditions are presented to them. It is a cliché: but it is also one of the bedrocks of the game, along with trying to win at all times. The cavalier way in which the two teams, with the connivance of officialdom, rode roughshod over these fundamentals has given the events of Saturday unwarranted significance.

The implications can be mirrored in other sports. I gather it was not much of a game at The Dell on Saturday, Southampton and Arsenal grinding their way to a goalless draw. Taking the Paarl precedent, the teams might have decided after an hour's football that they were never going to break the deadlock and walked off, perhaps offering a brisk five-a-side exhibition instead.

The point here is that there was no sustainable reason to end the contest. An undistinguished match was abandoned, not because conditions were dangerous or even because a result was impossible. Neither was the case. It was called off because the players were bored, abandoned through lack of interest. Three days of cricket, in which runs were scored at little more than two per over, had drained enthusiasm for seeking a positive conclusion.

Although the game was alive, and England might successfully have pushed for victory after a lunchtime declaration on the fourth day, the teams chose the easy solution, the cop-out. And, extraordinarily, it was sanctioned.

It is an immense irony that the only previous international game played at this spectacular ground in the valley of the Drakensteins also failed to finish. Last December, Boland's match against New Zealand was abandoned early on the second day because the pitch was deemed dangerous. Nothing could have been further from the truth this time, yet the outcome, depressingly, was the same.

On an excruciatingly slow pitch, batsmen had been unable to score quickly and bowlers had toiled without encouragement. The cricket had not been attractive, but if this is to be the sole basis for judging whether matches are fit to be completed, there could be many blank days in store.

The initiative for abandonment did not, apparently, come from the England party. For that, at least, we must be thankful. On Saturday afternoon, while Boland were making painfully hard work of reaching their initial target of 253 and avoiding the follow-on, their disenchanted players were sitting in front of the dressing-room idly contemplating the fanciful prospect of avoiding another fruitless session in the field.

At school, this sort of thing is known as "bunking off games" and is sternly discouraged — which is precisely what ought to have occurred on this occasion. Instead, the notion was taken up by Raymond Illingworth, the England manager, supported by his players and officially endorsed, in a telephone call, by Ali Bacher, managing director of the United Cricket Board of South Africa.

The Boland officials were perhaps keener on the idea than anyone, but for different reasons. They knew that a one-day game, although meaningless, would bring in a larger crowd and thereby greater revenue. In their haste to impose it, they issued a curt statement that failed even to mention the abandonment of the proper match, much less to explain it.

Within a country that is engaged, as Bacher puts it, in the recreation of a Test match culture, this was short-sighted pragmatism. The mentality was to take the money and forget the consequences and Bacher, as guardian of the country's cricketing principles, should instinctively have been opposed to it.

Although the gripping Test in Johannesburg drew big crowds, the popularity of one-day cricket here remains unchallenged. It is a position that will continue as long as reasons are found to dispense with longer games that may have become tiresome and replace them with spurious overs matches.

Illingworth, while agreeing that it was "an extraordinary decision", defended the move from a team standpoint. "No one is enjoying the match," he said, "and this is probably the best way of getting some interesting cricket. It has not been good preparation for a Test because the game has dawdled along and, on this pitch, it would keep on dawdling."

One could see his point, though not necessarily agree with it. There was a principle at stake here and, while Illingworth would say that it was not his place to defend it, someone must be accountable. The prospect remained of England forcing a victory in a scheduled, authentic first-class match. Substituting a day of utter triviality not only rendered Jack Russell's career-best score pointless, it was a desertion of responsibility to the game.

SCOREBOARD

ENGLAND XI: First Innings 402 for 8 dec (R C Russell 129 not out, R K Illingworth 57 not out, G P Thorpe 56)

Second Innings

J P Crawley not out	18
R A Smith c sub b Willoughby	1
M C Ilott c Lazard b Henderson	8
G P Thorpe not out	3
Extras (w 3)	3
Total (2 wkts)	33

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-3, 2-27.

BOWLING: Willoughby 6-2-7-1; Stelling 3.3-0-18-0; Henderson 3-0-8-1.

BOLAND: First Innings

B C Baguley c Watkinson b Martin	21
L D Ferreira b Illingworth	35
T Lazard st Russell b Illingworth	37
K C Jackson c Crawley b Watkinson	29
*A P Kuiper c Hick b Illingworth	5
W F Stelling c Smith b Watkinson	20
P A J DeFreitas c Smith b Martin	54
†L'M Germishuys b Ilott	7
C W Henderson c Russell b Ilott	31
B J Drew not out	30
C M Willoughby b Ilott	11
Extras (b 5, lb 2, nb 1)	8
Total	288

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-46, 2-78, 3-127, 4-129, 5-141, 6-181, 7-198, 8-216, 9-267.

BOWLING: Gough 3.4-1-14-0; Ilott 22-8-48-3; Martin 21.2-6-48-2; Illingworth 50-16-89-3; Watkinson 38-17-82-2.

Umpires: M Bagus and R Brooks.



GRAHAM MORRIS

Ramprakash begins the long walk back to the pavilion after being dismissed by Stelling third ball without scoring

Limited satisfaction for Atherton

FROM ALAN LEE IN PAARL

PAARL (England won toss): England XI beat Boland by 74 runs

MICHAEL Atherton was obliviously enjoying a day's fishing on Saturday when his well-deserved break was cut short. Recalled for yesterday's unscheduled limited-overs game, the idea of which he openly questioned, the England captain scored 77 from 92 balls and led his team to an easy win. He knows better than to believe it will last but, for now, life must seem serene.

Atherton did not bat as he had done to save the Johannesburg Test, nor was it appropriate to do so. This was a far more frivolous occasion, an irrelevance in all ways other than the opportunity for practice.

Atherton himself rightly believes the original match should have been finished. As a contest, this was no more compelling, and considerably less meaningful than the first-class match that was abandoned to accommodate it.

Darren Gough and Alec Stewart both missed the game through injury, and Gough can now be discounted from the third Test, which starts in Durban on Thursday. With little cricket available, he may even struggle to play any further part in the series.

Stewart is feeling aggravated pain from his chest, which was struck by Allan Donald a week ago, but his fitness for the Test is not in doubt.

Against a Boland attack missing Phillip DeFreitas, Atherton and Crawley put on 84 for the first wicket before Crawley fell. Hick and Thorpe then betrayed both the fickle nature of the pitch and the futile nature of the occasion by falling to inattentive strokes against Kuiper.

Ramprakash had not expected to play any cricket in Paarl and he must wish that had remained the case. Utterly disorientated, he pushed diffidently at his third ball and returned a catch to Stelling. Predictably, it was left to Russell to sustain the innings through the closing overs, finishing unbeaten for the third time this week.

Requiring 245, Boland lost their top four batsmen for 60 before Kuiper gave them slim hope with a half-century. He batted throughout with a runner and fell, bizarrely, to a run-out. From then on, the cricket was academic and it must be questionable whether anyone felt the switch of games had been worthwhile.

PAARL SCOREBOARD

ENGLAND XI

J P Crawley c Germishuys b Henderson	48
*M A Atherton c Germishuys b Muller	77
G A Hick c Drew b Kuiper	11
G P Thorpe c and b Kuiper	3
M R Ramprakash c and b Stelling	0
M Watkinson c Henderson b Drew	29
D G Cork c Baguley b Muller	16
†R C Russell not out	29
P J Marron c Germishuys b Willoughby	12
D E Malcolm b Stelling	0
A R C Fraser run out	4
Extras (b 4, lb 5, w 6)	15
Total (49.4 overs)	244

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-84, 2-107, 3-123, 4-124, 5-160, 6-188, 7-211, 8-239, 9-240.

BOWLING: Willoughby 10-0-58-1; Stelling 8.4-1-44-2; Muller 10-0-48-2; Drew 10-0-42-1; Henderson 5-1-26-1; Kuiper 8-2-16-2

BOLAND

B C Baguley c and b Martin	10
L D Ferreira lbw b Cork	3
T Lazard c Russell b Malcolm	11
K C Jackson b Martin	19
*A P Kuiper run out	54
W F Stelling b Cork	28
†L'M Germishuys c Crawley b Martin	19
C W Henderson c Ramprakash b Fraser	11
Z Muller lbw b Fraser	3
B J Drew not out	1
C M Willoughby b Martin	0
Extras (lb 3, w 5, nb 2)	10
Total (42.4 overs)	170

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-18, 2-33, 3-39, 4-60, 5-135, 6-137, 7-158, 8-169, 9-169.

BOWLING: Cork 8-1-15-2; Malcolm 6-0-18-1; Martin 8.4-2-35-4; Fraser 8-1-37-2; Watkinson 10-0-47-0; Hick 2-0-15-0

Umpires: M Bagus and R Brooks.

Higgins on course to challenge Hendry's ascendancy

FROM PHIL YATES IN FRANKFURT

JOHN HIGGINS, appearing in his seventh final of 1995, was within four frames of ending a successful year by securing the German Open snooker title when he established a 5-3 first-session lead over Ken Doherty here yesterday.

Doherty, who unexpectedly beat Stephen Hendry in the semi-finals, won the first frame convincingly, fashioning a 105 clearance, but thereafter Higgins imposed his authority as he moved towards a first prize of £40,000.

Breaks of 70 and 97 helped Higgins to outscore Doherty 209-0 in the next two frames and, when the Scot increased his lead to 3-1, a similarly one-sided final to the United Kingdom championship last week — in which Hendry overwhelmed Peter Ebdon 10-3 — looked possible.

However, Doherty responded by winning a scrappy fifth frame and he drew level at 3-3 with an 80 clearance in the sixth after Higgins, 45 points ahead, had played an ineffective safety shot.

At that point, Doherty appeared marginally stronger than his 20-year-old rival but Higgins does not surrender the initiative easily. He edged 4-3 ahead by winning the seventh frame comfortably and he completed a satisfactory afternoon by compiling a decisive 50 break in the eighth.

The 6-3 win by Doherty over Hendry on Saturday brought to an end a 15-match unbeaten run for the world champion, stretching back to his 5-4 reversal against John Parrott at the corresponding stage of the Thailand Classic in early October.

While Hendry refused to accept that mental fatigue had played a role, it was clear he did not possess his usual focus. That was obvious as early as the first frame when, leading 62-0, he suffered a lapse in concentration and missed an elementary pink.

Doherty stole the frame on the black with a clearance of 70 and there was an almost identical scenario in the fourth. This time Hendry missed a black off its spot when 58-4 up and Doherty cleared with 62.

Despite the defeat, Hendry goes into the new year well clear at the top of the prize-money list for the season, with £242,500, and only Higgins is even remotely challenging his status as the world No 1.

Results, page 31

Sri Lankans censured for ball-tampering

BY MEL WEBB

THE Sri Lanka team created a piece of international cricket history on Saturday, but not one to give them much satisfaction. They became the first side to be officially found guilty of ball-tampering during a Test match, when censured by the match referee on the second day of the first Test against Australia in Perth.

Graham Dowling, the International Cricket Council referee, issued the warning after the umpires, Khizer Hayat, of Pakistan, and Peter Parker said that the Sri Lankans had altered the condition of the ball in the seventeenth over.

"The Sri Lanka captain, Arjuna Ranatunga, was notified that the condition of the ball had clearly been altered and advised that the umpires would take action if there was any further attempt to tamper with the ball," Dowling said.

"The International Cricket Council does not condone such practices, and I have made this abundantly clear to the Sri Lankan management."

Dowling took no further disciplinary action.

The Sri Lankans' antics did not do them a great deal of good as Australia put them to the sword, piling up 617 for five declared, with Michael Slater, the opening batsman, scoring 219 not out, Mark Waugh 111 and Ricky Ponting 96 on his Test debut.

The Sri Lankans' misdemeanours largely passed Slater by, and he said that nothing out of the ordinary had happened when the umpires took action. "It was a big surprise," he said. "I thought it was a simple case of the ball going out of shape."

The Australian batsmen did more to alter the shape of the ball than any tampering Sri Lankan. Slater, who resumed on 189, went on to the highest score of his career in an innings that lasted for 7½ hours and contained five sixes and 15 fours. He put on 228 for the first wicket with Mark Taylor, the Australia captain, who was out for 96, leg-before to de Silva.

Slater eventually perished to a return catch by Muttiah Muralitharan, the off spinner, after establishing a Test record for the Waca ground, overtaking David Boon's 200 against New Zealand in 1989-90.

Waugh continued where Slater left off, although by his usual lofty standards this was a subdued innings — he had batted for 261 minutes, faced 223 balls and hit one six and seven fours when he edged Vaas, the fast bowler, to Kaluwitharana behind the stumps.

Ponting put on 121 for the fifth wicket with Stuart Law, also making his Test debut, before falling leg-before to Vaas; Law was left unbeaten on 54. Sri Lanka finished the day on 13 for no wicket, facing an uphill battle to save the match.

SCOREBOARD

SRI LANKA: First Innings 251 (R S Kaluwitharana 50; G D McGrath 4-81)

Second Innings

R S Mahanama not out	2
U C Hathurusinghe not out	7
Extras (lb 1, nb 3)	4
Total (no wkt)	13

BOWLING: McGrath 2-1-4-0; McDermott 1-0-7-0; Warne 1-0-1-0.

AUSTRALIA: First Innings

M J Slater c and b Muralitharan	219
*M A Taylor lbw b de Silva	96
D C Boon c Hathurusinghe b Muralitharan	13
M E Waugh c Kaluwitharana b Vaas	111
R T Ponting lbw b Vaas	96
S G Law not out	54
Extras (b 4, lb 8, nb 18)	28
Total (5 wkts dec)	617

†I A Healy, S K Warne, C J McDermott, B P Julian and G D McGrath did not bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-228, 2-266, 3-422, 4-496, 5-617.

BOWLING: Wickremasinghe 31-3-123-0; Vaas 31-5-103-2; Muralitharan 54-3-224-2; Hathurusinghe 9-3-31-0; Dharmasena 31-5-84-0; de Silva 18-1-42-1

Umpires: Khizar Hayat (Pakistan) and P Parker (Australia).

England find bad light at end of tour tunnel

FROM PAT GIBSON IN PESHAWAR, PAKISTAN

THERE have been times on the England A tour of Pakistan when the players have wondered what on earth they were doing here, and yesterday was one of them. They were restricted to just three hours of cricket because of what the umpires considered to be bad light, when every Englishman on the ground knew that, if they did not play at home in such conditions, they would hardly play at all.

It would be wrong to question the value of these expeditions because all the players have gained from the experience, and one or two could emulate the likes of Thorpe and Cork, who benefited enormously from their pre-Test match education. However, there is not a great deal of point in them without the full co-operation of the home authorities.

There has not been much of that in the third and final international match of the series here. It started 90 minutes late because of the quaint Pakistani rule under which a match cannot begin until the groundstaff has "released" the pitch to the umpires, despite the fact that both the officials and the captains were ready to play.

Even then, there was nowhere for the scorer to sit, and nobody to man the scoreboard. On Saturday, the match referee, appointed by the Pakistan Cricket Board, did not bother to turn up. Yesterday, on a soft, hazy morning, the umpires took the players off before a ball had been bowled, and then watched the Pakistan A quick bowlers thundering in off their full run-ups against their own batsmen as they practised in the nets on the outfield, while the sun climbed into a cloudless sky.

Play eventually began 100 minutes late. Twenty minutes and 27 balls after that, they went off for lunch. Finally, after a full afternoon session in glorious sunshine, they took the players off for good, an hour and 20 minutes before the scheduled close.

It has to be said that the light was already beginning to fade, but someone should have known when the itinerary was arranged that it always gets dark early at this time of the year on the northwest frontier.

The irony of it all was that, in the context of the match, the final stoppage suited England better. Pakistan A had just taken the initiative for the first time in the series and given themselves a chance of squaring it at 1-1 thanks to an unbeaten 103 by Asif Mujtaba, their captain and by some distance their best player.

Mujtaba had been dropped first ball, at second slip, off the ball that should have given Dean Headley a hat-trick and left Pakistan A reeling at one for four on Saturday. After that, however, England A suffered from not having a third seam bowler because of their desire to give opportunities to all their middle-order batsmen.

Headley did take two more wickets yesterday, to reduce Pakistan A to 112 for six, but once Akram Raza had been dropped at long leg off Giddins, he joined his captain in an unbroken stand of 95 that put them eight runs ahead with four wickets in hand.

PESHAWAR SCOREBOARD

ENGLAND A: First Innings

N V Knight lbw b Shahid Nazir	55
J E R Gallian c and b Akram	16
*N Hussain lbw b Shahid Nazir	9
A McGrath lbw b Athar	0
D P Ostler b Shahid Nazir	68
J C Pooley c Salman b Athar	6
†K J Piper b Shahid Nazir	11
I D K Salisbury c Akram b Salman	11
S D Udal lbw b Shahid Nazir	4
D W Headley not out	8
E S H Giddins b Shahid Nazir	0
Extras (b 1, lb 10)	11
Total	199

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-42, 2-70, 3-71, 4-87, 5-102, 6-137, 7-163, 8-184, 9-199

BOWLING: Athar Laig 29-15-34-2, Shahid Nazir 27.5-9-64-6; Asif Mujtaba 3-0-3-0; Akram Raza 13-1-37-1; Salman Fazal 17-3-50-1.

PAKISTAN A: First Innings

Shakeel Ahmed c Knight b Giddins	1
Shadid Anwar b Headley	0
Babar Zaman b Headley	0
*Asif Mujtaba not out	103
Javed Sami lbw b Giddins	6
Shahid Javed c Piper b Headley	40
†Wasim Yousufi c Piper b Headley	5
Akram Raza not out	25
Extras (b 4, lb 10, nb 13)	27
Total (6 wkts)	207

Athar Laig, Shahid Nazir and Salman Fazal to bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-1, 2-1, 3-1, 4-22, 5-97, 6-112.

BOWLING: Headley 29.3-5-83-4; Giddins 24-4-60-2; Salisbury 6-0-28-0; Udal 12-2-31-0; Gallian 9-5-11-0.

Umpires: Iftikhar Malik and Feroz Butt.

Elegant Ijaz century puts Pakistan in driving seat

BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

A CENTURY of rare quality by Ijaz Ahmed, his second in successive Test matches, helped Pakistan into a position of control against New Zealand yesterday.

At the close of play on the third day of the one-off Test in Christchurch, Pakistan were 369 for seven in their second innings — a lead of 291 runs. Wasim Akram, the captain, who was 11 not out, and Mushtaq Ahmed, on one, will attempt to press home their advantage today.

Ijaz's silky 103 was his fourth century in Test cricket and his first against a country other than Australia. It followed his 137 in the third Test against Australia at Sydney. That innings set up a victory and the one here, with help from Inzamam-ul-Haq, could well do the same.

Ijaz and Inzamam broke a 30-year-old record as they put on 140 runs for the second wicket, surpassing the 114 against New Zealand set by Mohammed Ilyas and Saeed Ahmed at Rawalpindi in 1965.

Ijaz struck 13 fours and two sixes in his 213-ball innings and looked a class above any other batsman in the match. He fell when he tried to run a ball from Dion Nash backward of point but instead deflected the ball to Lee Germon, the New Zealand captain and wicketkeeper.

Inzamam was out for 82 with the score on 195 when he attempted to off-drive Nash for his fourteenth boundary and edged the ball to Stephen Fleming at first slip. Inzamam took the attack to the bowlers after a duck in the first innings. He played all his shots, including a sublime hooked six off Chris Cairns.

Ramiz Raja chipped in with 62 before he was leg-before to Danny Morrison, giving the fast bowler his 150th wicket in Test cricket. It was Ramiz's 21st Test half-century and followed the 54 he scored in the first innings of the match.

Salim Malik scored 21 off 22 balls before he nudged a lifting delivery from Morrison outside off stump to Germon as he attempted to withdraw his bat. Basit Ali missed a straight Cairns delivery to be out leg-before for a duck. Rashid Latif, the Pakistan wicketkeeper, chipped in with 39 to complete a day of solid consolidation that Pakistan had started on 138 for one, with Ijaz on 54 and Inzamam on 52.

On a pitch that is getting flatter and truer by the day, the New Zealand bowlers toiled manfully but could not find the inspiration to dislodge determined batting.

Mushtaq, the Pakistan leg spinner, who rediscovered his form at Test-match level by taking 18 wickets in the final two matches of the tour of Australia, may hold the key to the outcome of the match.

The pitch is showing few signs of wear but is expected to produce some turn as the match progresses, which should give Mushtaq the incentive to break down any stubborn rearguard action by New Zealand.

SCOREBOARD

PAKISTAN: First Innings 208 (Aamir Sohail 88, Ramiz Raja 54; C L Cairns 4-51)

Second Innings

Aamir Sohail b Patel	30
Ramiz Raja lbw b Morrison	62
Ijaz Ahmed c Germon b Nash	103
Inzamam-ul-Haq c Fleming b Nash	82
Salim Malik c Germon b Morrison	21
Basit Ali lbw b Cairns	0
†Rashid Latif c Germon b Cairns	39
*Wasim Akram not out	11
Mushtaq Ahmed not out	1
Extras (b 5, lb 6, w 4, nb 5)	20
Total (7 wkts)	369

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-55, 2-195, 3-224, 4-260, 5-265, 6-339, 7-363.

BOWLING: Morrison 22-4-78-2; Nash 24-4-77-2; Cairns 29-4-98-2; Patel 24-8-61-1; Larsen 24-7-44-0.

NEW ZEALAND: First Innings

B A Young c Rashid b Rehman	16
C M Spearman b Mushtaq	40
A C Parore c Rashid b Rehman	9
S P Fleming st Rashid b Mushtaq	25
R G Twose lbw b Wasim	59
C L Cairns b Wasim	76
*†L K Germon c Rashid b Wasim	21
D N Patel c Aamir b Wasim	3
G R Larsen not out	5
D J Nash c Rashid b Wasim	11
D K Morrison b Mushtaq	0
Extras (lb 4, nb 17)	21
Total	286

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-48, 2-65, 3-73, 4-119, 5-221, 6-262, 7-265, 8-269, 9-283, 10-286.

BOWLING: Wasim Akram 24.5-4-53-5; Waqar Younis 16-2-60-0; Ata-ur-Rehman 17.1-4-47-2; Mushtaq Ahmed 30.4-4-115-3; Aamir Sohail 3-0-7-0

Umpires: S Dunne (New Zealand) and B C Cooray (Sri Lanka)

Palace look ready for promotion

BY NICHOLAS HARLING

EVER since their third successive application for admission to basketball's Budweiser League was rejected last May, Crystal Palace had longed for the chance of revenge. Doncaster Panthers were the unfortunate victims on Saturday, beaten dramatically four seconds from the final buzzer by a jump shot from Nigerian international Soloman Ayinla, but the Budweiser League as a whole is certain to suffer the embarrassment of Palace's 82-81 victory in the fourth round of the National Cup.

How now can Palace be kept out, assuming that the unbeaten leaders of the first division go on to win it again? "We don't feel smug," the Palace player-coach, Alton Byrd, said, although his expression belied it. "We just feel that, on performances like tonight's, we deserve to be in the Budweiser League."

Both on and off court, Palace seemed equipped for a return to the elite. Watched by a healthy crowd, the hosts led for most of the first half, conceding the initiative and going five points down only to rally and catch the Panthers by the interval when it was 40-40. Behind from the opening basket of the second half, twice by as many as 11 points, Palace gradually contained the threat of Doncaster's Americans, Doug Etzler and Jimmy Ratliff, to haul themselves back into the tie.

The other two first division clubs, Coventry Crusaders and Ware Rebels, both fell to Budweiser League opponents. Also beaten were the 1994 winners, Worthing Bears, who did not have the resources to stop the Leopards winning 87-82. The league leaders, London Towers, were surprisingly comfortable 82-65 victors at Derby Storm.

City's poor defence ruins impeccable Georgian architecture

Keith Pike watches Middlesbrough secure a 4-1 triumph despite the upstaging of Juninho

The main event went Middlesbrough's way, by a decisive if highly flattering margin, and hugely entertaining it was too, with two sides committed to attack but only one able to defend for the duration. Manchester City managed it quite well for maybe 88 of the 90 minutes. In the seconds that mattered, Alan Ball's team played sundial to Bryan Robson's Rolex.

And the contest within the contest? No contest, as it turned out. Juninho played decently enough, linking busily, helping to create one goal and scoring the last, and easiest, of Middlesbrough's four. It was also his first since arriving on Teesside on a Brazilian wave of expectancy. Juninho looked suitably chuffed as the Riverside Stadium — a mightily impressive arena when deserted, an intimidating theatre when full — bowed as one in homage.

Yet Juninho was upstaged, not only by a couple of his colleagues, Walsh and Barmby, but also by Georgi Kinkladze, who was born on a different continent but, on Saturday, might have hailed from another planet. The Georgian stood on his right foot, weaved magic with his left, and conjured a memorable goal as well as several opportunities spurned by others. Finishing brilliantly and finishing on a heavily beaten side in one afternoon cannot have been easy to take.

Compared with the fuss created by Juninho's arrival — journalists sent halfway round the world to interview his mum; signed up by *The Sun* before he had learnt to say "beer and tabs" — Kinkladze had slipped almost unnoticed through the tradesman's entrance at Maine Road, for about half the Brazilian's fee, and yet Alan Ball had predicted that, in terms of ability, the imports could be separated by the thickness of a cigarette paper. On this evidence, the Manchester City manager uses something a bit thicker than Rizlas for his roll-ups — the complete works of Shakespeare, perhaps.

It was hardly Juninho's fault that his goal was a tap-in, but Kinkladze's neatly encapsulated his performance: instant control, and power and purpose in the run that left Stamp grounded and Pearson perplexed before the ball was swept almost lazily inside Walsh's left-hand post.

City had the lead as well as the momentum. What they did not have were three of the side that had taken 13 out of 15 FA Carling *Premiership* points, the resolve to withstand Middlesbrough's predictably pugnacious response or, indeed, the luck. Brown's deflection of Vickers's cross put Barmby's equaliser on a plate before half-time. Inside 60 seconds soon after it, Stamp had been invited to slalom through the heart of City's defence for Middlesbrough's second and Barmby was left unmarked at the far post for their third. City nodded off, Barmby nodded in.

Even then it might not have been beyond City to recover. Had the finishing of Quinn — twice — and Creaney matched the certainty of Kinkladze's approach play, or had Walsh not confirmed that he wasted too long in Schmeichel's giant shadow at Old Trafford, their unbeaten run could yet have been extended to six matches. Near the end, Kinkladze's exasperated shrug said it all. Much earlier, a mesmeric display of ball juggling when hemmed in by the touchline had proved that he can keep a ball up; he can do the same for Alan Ball, too.

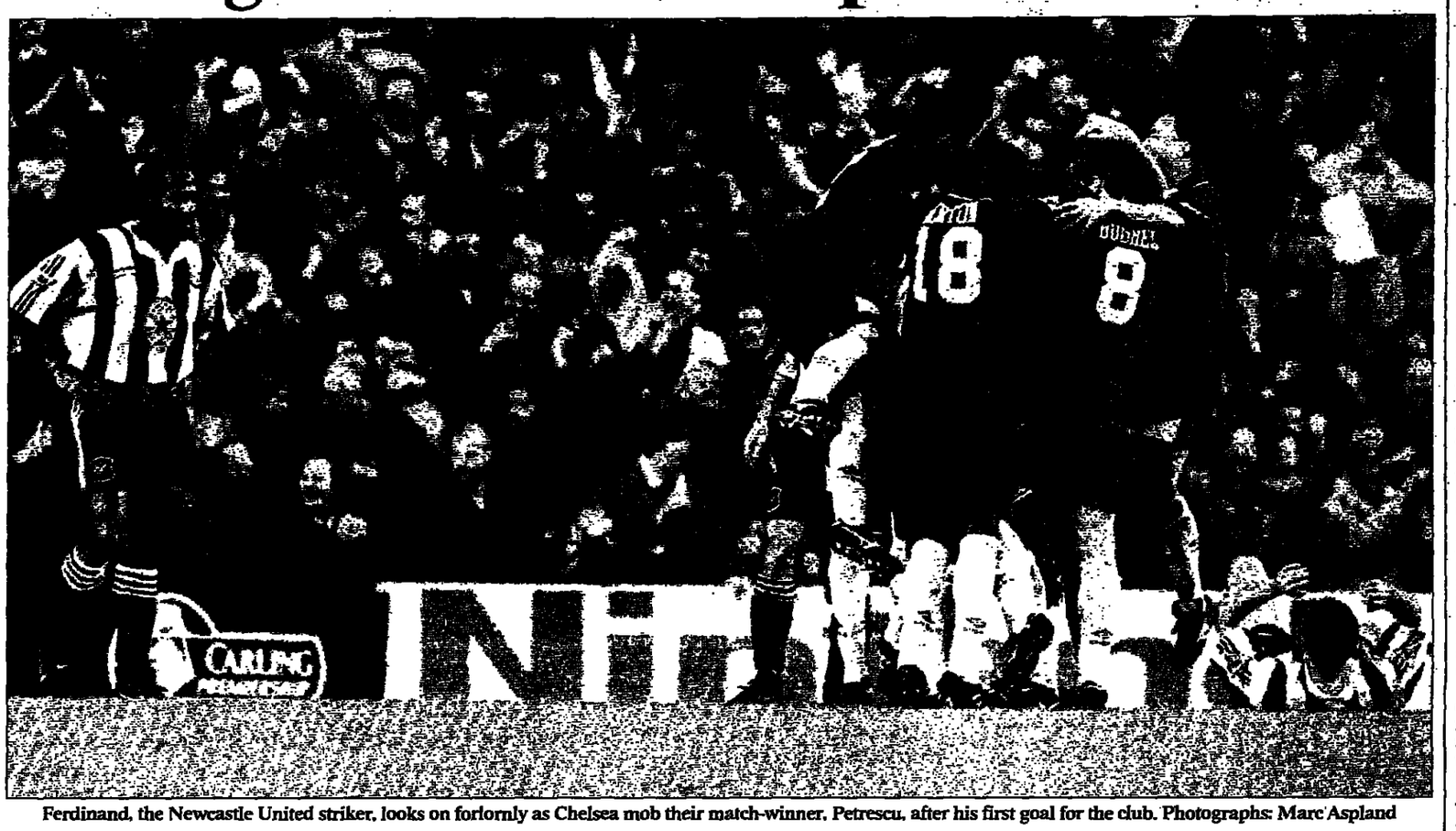
Ball blamed "naive defending" and a "banzai commitment to attack and entertaining" for City's defeat, and he had a point. Robson smiled and sympathised, and subsequently outlined his Middlesbrough masterplan. The sustained success of Liverpool that he used to envy, and the achievements of the Manchester United side he captained, came simply because both sides had "seven or eight of the best players in their positions in the country". Get that, he said, "and you can forget about formations and tactics and just get on with playing". He has a way to go yet, but with Barmby he has a start. What would he give for Kinkladze?

MIDDLESBROUGH (3-4-2-1): G Walsh — N Pearson, S Vickers, D Whyte — N Cox, P Stamp, J Pollock, C Liddle — Juninho, N Barmby — JA Fjortoft.
MANCHESTER CITY (4-3-1-2): E Immel — I Brightwell, K Symons, K Curle, R Ingram — N Summerbee, M Brown, S Lomas — G Kinkladze — N Quinn, G Creaney.
Referee: S Lodge.


Kinkladze: conjuror

Simon Barnes sees harmony follow victory after Newcastle's wings are clipped

Chelsea wage war and find peace dividend


Ferdinand, the Newcastle United striker, looks on forlornly as Chelsea mob their match-winner, Petrescu, after his first goal for the club. Photographs: Marc Aspland

IT IS victory that makes the world go round. At the end, the Chelsea boardroom millionaires, Ken Bates and Matthew Harding, stopped their boring squabble-by-tabloid for an outbreak of thoroughly hippified peace and love, and ended up in each other's arms at Stamford Bridge. One-nil is all you need.

Would their hug have been so warm had Ferdinand's shot not rebounded from the bar, or had the Newcastle United substitute goalkeeper been a trifle swifter on to Petrescu's shot? But victory is done and cannot be thought away, and so the men hugged, wallet to wallet, and backs were roundly patted, no doubt for reconnaissance.

The Chelsea captain, Dennis Wise, signalled his approval with a series of thumbs-up, yes-I-mean-you-two gestures as he walked off in triumph. Wise proudly stood up as roving ambassador of peace: joy is unconfined among the taxi-drivers of London.

Peace and love were a bit harder to find on the pitch, but in a match full of wince-making tackles and the most ungovernable amount of running about, Chelsea, already enormously made up by their draw at Old Trafford last week, showed their even-handedness by panting out a win over the FA Carling Premiership leaders.

It was crazy stuff; Christmas spirit in the boardroom, but no sanity clause in the rules of play. The referee was one of the *laissez-faire*, non-interventionist types. He was all in favour of the privatisation of the tackle. There were 44 legs out there: I counted them out and I counted them back. Not a stray limb left behind on the pitch. Quite extraordinary.

As for the match, Chelsea were lucky to win it and deserved their victory. It was that sort of afternoon. You could not work out whether you were proud to be English, or ashamed. The game was played in a full-blooded Anglo-frenzy, and anyone who had tried any fancy, foreign playmaker stuff and put his foot on the ball would have had both legs amputated at the thigh, and the referee would have signalled play-on.

The game had a thousand matches within the match, for every footballer has his private system of accountancy. Under the *laissez-faire* system, if somebody gets you, you get him back. That is the oldest rule of the game, and one of the most satisfying to adhere to.

Thus the game flew by on the cusp of madness. There was only one trifling eight-man punch-up. It was not a dirty game, just rather poorly refereed, and the escalation of frenzy was inevitable. But whither Newcastle? Kevin Keegan, their manager, said that you are allowed the odd bad game. He was mainly referring to his pair of wings, Ginola and Gillespie, who flapped a good deal but remained earthbound.

"To play two wingers is a gamble," he said, "but they've been consistent all season." This is not the time of year for double off-days. Without the usual stream of crosses, mighty Ferdinand was left isolated up front.

The Newcastle goalkeeper, Hislop, pulled a muscle late in the first half, and Keegan substituted him. Perhaps he should have waited a few minutes longer. With the best will in the world, it is a nasty business to go straight out to a free kick on the edge of the box. It was near the byline, and Wise's lofted cross was only cleared as far as Petrescu, who steadied the ball neatly and cracked home his first goal for Chelsea past poor Srnicek. And despite all Newcastle's running about and everbody's Grim Reaper tackles, that was how it stayed.

Reid's fillip 27
Wolves triumph 27

Newcastle's title hopes are in the non-proven category. They have won all season while playing well: this was only their second league defeat. Over the Christmas fixtures and the hard weather of January, champions often start to play badly. But champions still win. Newcastle must seek out the secrets of winning ugly.

On Saturday, Chelsea provided a reasonable model. Nor is that a criticism. Ugly or pretty does not matter a bit in football: only winning. Perhaps Bates and Harding would delete the words "in football" from that last sentence. If so, they are wrong.

The great feasts of the Church have a special meaning to footballing people. The Christmas garland of fixtures is a kind of Becher's Brook: this very special obstacle — four matches in ten days — generally alters forever the way the rest of the race is run. Easter represents The Elbow, the last unending, desperate yards, when nerves and sinews are at snapping point. But this is Advent, and the whole art of jumping a horse over an obstacle lies in the approach, the preparation. Newcastle move towards Becher's thoroughly unbalanced, the fence looking bigger with every stride.

All in all, this was an odd, and an oddly English, afternoon. All those tackles, all that running about beneath the snow-heavy sky. Ginola, Newcastle's French winger, reminded me of a character in *Asterix*. At any moment, I expected him to shrug monumentally, cast his eyes around his colleagues, the wild crowd, the feuding millionaires, and say: "*Ils sont fous, ces anglais . . .*"

CHELSEA (3-5-2): D Kharine — M Duberry, D Lee, A Myers — D Petrescu, J Spencer, D Wise, E Newton, T Phelan — M Hughes, P Furlong.
NEWCASTLE UNITED (4-4-1-1): S Hislop (sub: P Srnicek, 41min) — W Barton, D Peacock, S Howey, J Beresford — K Gillespie, L Clark, R Lee, D Ginola — P Beardsley — L Ferdinand.
Referee: R Dilkes.


Bates, right, Harding and David Mellor, left, put their differences aside at Stamford Bridge on Saturday

Arsenal's ten men dig deep after dismissal

Southampton 0
Arsenal 0

BY NICK SZCZEPANIK

TWENTY minutes before kick-off, while Southampton's players warmed up individually or in pairs, the Arsenal squad formed a single, tightly-knit group and practised interpassing, interceptions and keeping possession. Here, you sensed, was an outfit that was going to exemplify the traditional Highbury virtues of team play, spirit and belief. And so it proved, as they overcame the sending-off after 54 minutes of Tony Adams, their captain, to hang on to a point and third place in the FA Carling Premiership table.

"They dig in deep," Dave Merrington, the Southampton manager, said. "They have players who have played together for some time, they are rock-solid at the back, and are probably one of the best sides away from home; very difficult to play against."

For all the collective virtues on display, there were few moments of individual flair, and the big names on the team-sheet seldom sparkled. Indeed, two visiting Italian journalists, reporting on David Platt's progress since his return from Italy, must have wondered on Saturday's evidence about his decision to leave Serie A's *dolce vita* for Premiership park life. "He is not doing anything in this game," one of them said. But the same applied to others.

Le Tissier at least had the excuse of being followed all over the field, and even into the referee's book after an elbowing incident, by Keown. "Man-to-man marking is a skill that has disappeared a bit from the British game," Bruce Rioch, the Arsenal manager, said, "but Martin Keown is very good at it. We don't think Le Tissier likes it. He's a player we have a lot of respect for, but we don't think he can get away from it."

However, it is a poor game when the most colourful incident is the brandishing of a red card; nevertheless, with the first of five yellow ones appearing after only 90 seconds, someone was likely to walk sooner or later. On 55 minutes, Shipperley escaped the otherwise impeccable Bould and was advancing on goal when Adams sent him flying. Despite a creditable attempt to make it look accidental, the Arsenal captain must have expected the worst.

"You never know nowadays," he said. "I've made a lot of different tackles and not been sent off. You probably got a better view of it than I did." Well, naturally: after all, his point of view was all of six feet from the point of impact.

"Very harsh," was Rioch's version, from further away. But Arsenal always seem to have a spare central defender around, and Keown slotted in alongside Bould, leaving Wright alone up front, and normal service resumed.

True, Le Tissier took advantage of his greater freedom to thread a pass through the defence to Dodd, who shot narrowly wide, and Shipperley blazed a last-minute chance over the bar from six yards, but Beasant, the Southampton goalkeeper, needed to leave his area twice, first to head, then to kick, clear from Wright.

"We did well," Rioch said. "If anything, it was closer at their end." Away from home and with only ten men, it was a clear case of 0-0 to the Arsenal.

SOUTHAMPTON (4-4-2): D Beasant — J Dodd, R Hall, K Monkou, F Benali (sub: G Watson, 85min) — N Heaney (sub: M Oakley, 69), J Magilton, B Venison, S Charlton — N Shipperley, M Le Tissier.
ARSENAL (4-1-3-2): D Seaman — L Dixon, S Bould, A Adams, N Winterburn — M Keown — J Jensen, D Platt, P Merson — J Hartson (sub: A Clarke, 59), I Wright.
Referee: P Danson.

Stylish Coventry expose champions

Coventry City 5
Blackburn Rovers 0

BY OLIVER HOLT

THE Blackburn Rovers players have been schooled by the masters of non-communication, Kenny Dalglish and Ray Harford, so it would be foolish to expect a hint of articulacy from most of them, even on a good day. Well, Saturday at Highfield Road was definitely not a good day and the boys did not disappoint. "Are you able to talk?" one reporter asked David Batty as he marched towards the team bus. "Yes," Batty said. "But I'm not going to."

Harford at least had the grace to turn up to the post-match press conference but largely confined himself to one-word answers.

Before he hit the rich vein of form that has made him so beloved of radio reporters, just replying "yes" to almost every question, he did offer one begrudging insight into his team's crushing defeat at the hands of what had been the FA Carling Premiership's bottom club. "One team wanted to win and the other did not want to play," he said.

It was hard to argue with him. Blackburn's appalling away record this season has already cost them any chance of retaining the championship and, on Saturday, some of their players had apparently expressed reservations about the state of a pitch blanched by a heavy frost. From the start, they played without any of the spirit or conviction that had taken them to a 4-1 midweek win over Rosenborg in their European Champions' League swansong.

Coventry City, without a league win since their victory against Manchester City on August 23, went for them like a pack of ravenous hyenas on the scent of a wounded animal. Spurred on by the news that their manager, Ron Atkinson, is chasing Coleman, the Crystal Palace defender, and Whelan, the Leeds United forward, they played with a style, speed and fluency that belied their position as the division's whipping boys.

Richardson controlled the midfield, covering more ground than the rest and distributing the ball in a succession of searing passes, left to Salako and Hall, the foraging wing back, and right to Ndlovu. When Ndlovu and Salako switched flanks, the Zimbabwe international gave Berg, who had been so composed against his countrymen last Wednesday, a torrid time.

The surprise was that it took Coventry so long to go in front. Dublin and Hall saw good efforts go narrowly high and wide respectively until, five minutes before half-time, Hall's long centre was nodded back across goal by Ndlovu while the Blackburn defence stood and watched and then headed into the roof of the net by the onrushing Busst.

Half-time did little to interrupt Coventry's momentum and, 30 seconds after Flowers had produced a fine reaction save from Dublin's bullet header in the 59th minute, the home team went further ahead. Dublin judged the flight of a cross from Richardson more accurately than Berg, pulled it down expertly as his marker slipped, and hooked the ball past the Blackburn goalkeeper.

Four minutes later, it began to turn into a rout, Rennie rising at the near post to head a free kick from Richardson past Flowers. The champions had barely had time to recover from that when Ndlovu latched on to a goal kick, weaved his way through a crowded Blackburn defence and squeezed a low shot into the corner of the net.


Ndlovu: fine display

Last week, Coventry twice let slip a lead against Sheffield Wednesday at Hillsborough with some abysmal defending, so on Saturday they just kept attacking. Their policy was rewarded two minutes from the final whistle, when Salako capitalised on more hesitation in the Blackburn rearguard to sweep home his side's fifth goal. The result moved Coventry one place off the bottom of the table.

After that, you would have thought that Atkinson would have been back to his Mr Bojangles-best, but he was grim and grumpy. Perhaps he had been watching Batty and Harford in action, perhaps he was annoyed about suggestions that Coleman is also talking to Blackburn. On yesterday's evidence, at least, Harford's need for a strengthened defence is the greater.

COVENTRY CITY (3-4-3): S Ogrizovic — D Rennie, D Busst, C Whyte — A Pickering, P Telfer, K Richardson, M Hall — P Ndlovu, D Dublin, J Salako.
BLACKBURN ROVERS (4-4-2): T Flowers — H Berg, C Sutton, N Marker, G Le Saux — S Ripley, L Bohinen (sub: W McKinlay, 45min), T Sherwood, D Batty — M Newell (sub: P Warhurst, 34), A Shearer.
Referee: S Dunn.

Charlton reveals nothing

JACK CHARLTON, the Ireland manager, refused to reveal his hand yesterday as his side prepared for the European championship play-off against Holland at Anfield on Wednesday (Peter Ball writes).

"I'm not telling anybody what we are doing, or how we are doing it," Charlton said at his team's Queensferry headquarters. "I'm not picking the team yet, there's no hurry. There's a couple of things I want to look at."

But, for all Charlton's secrecy, his options are limited. Apart from the loss of Roy Keane and David Kelly, who are injured, and Niall Quinn, who is suspended, Charlton's decision to invoke the five-day rule at least meant that he was able to relax yesterday without waiting for the inevitable phone-calls announcing late withdrawals.

The loss of Keane, whose struggle to be fit in time always looked doomed, is a blow, but it was one that Charlton anticipated, and he took some encouragement from the return to fitness of Townsend and Sheridan.

Mixed blessings for British Isles teams

BY MEL WEBB

THE good news for England, Scotland and Ireland is that they will avoid each other in the draw that will produce the European sides for the 1998 World Cup finals in France. The bad news is that they will have to survive the toughest qualifying programme for 20 years to get there.

The procedure for making the draw, announced in Paris yesterday, put the three leading teams in the British Isles in the same seeding pool among the 49 nations that will be playing for 14 places in the finals.

With France, as hosts, gaining an automatic place, Europe will have 15 places, two more than in the United States last year. However, the fragmentation of the Soviet Union and the former Yugoslavia means that there is a huge increase in the number of competing nations.

João Havelange, the president of Fifa, the world governing body of football, originally wanted the European entries to be placed in seven groups of seven countries, with the first two in each group qualifying for the finals by right. But the World Cup organising committee went instead for the plan put forward by Uefa, the European governing body, for five groups of five teams and four of six.

The nine group-winners will go through, plus the group runners-up with the best record, although the way that will be established has yet to be decided after widespread criticism of the method used for the European championship finals next year.

The other eight second-placed sides will play off on a home-and-away basis for the final four places, and they will face a possible 12 games in 15 months. The decision places England, Scotland and Ireland in the second nine-nation seeding group. Northern Ireland is in the third group and Wales in the fourth.

"It looks tough, but I never imagined it would be anything else," Terry Venables, the England coach, said. "It will be hard for everyone."

European seeding pools

POOL A: Germany, Spain, Italy, Russia, Norway, Denmark, Holland, Sweden, Romania.
POOL B: Bulgaria, Switzerland, Portugal, Czech Rep, England, Ireland, Scotland, Belgium, Greece.
POOL C: Turkey, Poland, Slovakia, Austria, Croatia, Israel, Finland, Lithuania, Northern Ireland.
POOL D: Iceland, Latvia, Wales, Hungary, Cyprus, Ukraine, Slovenia, Georgia, Yugoslavia.
POOL E: Albania, Belarus, Malta, Macedonia, Luxembourg, Moldova, Armenia, Faeroe Islands, Estonia.
POOL F: Azerbaijan, San Marino, Liechtenstein, Bosnia.

هكذا من الأصل

Cantona rescues United after goalscoring king fails to recapture his regal touch

Cole industry continues without a strike

Andrew Longmore
on the barren spell
of a player used
to finding the net



Cole's quest for a goal goes on, offside having already been given as he shoots on the turn with Pressman, the Wednesday goalkeeper, looking on. Photograph: Ian Stewart

Bob Latchford, the former Everton and England striker, was in the press room at Old Trafford on Saturday, calling the odds for Ladbrokes. Cole and Cantona were on offer at 5-1 to score the first goal. Only one winner there, then.

Cantona scored twice to bring a depleted Manchester United a 2-2 draw with Sheffield Wednesday. Cole was never in the hunt, the image of the black-and-white King Goal of 12 months ago replaced by a forlorn figure in red, arms akimbo, face betraying a mixture of frustration, despair and disbelief as the game flowed around him.

At least Collymore is scoring goals for Liverpool, for all his troubles. Cole has managed three in 14 FA Carling Premiership games this season and, for most of Saturday, looked as uncomfortable as the boy who is always last pick in the playground. If Alex Ferguson, the United manager, thought £7 million was a small price to pay for the last piece in his jigsaw, he is beginning to bang his fist a bit to make it fit.

Full results and league tables ..... Page 26

Ferguson, never one to criticise his players lightly, chastised Cole in his programme notes for his "carelessness" in missing a chance just before he was substituted against Chelsea. "I wouldn't tolerate that approach in any other player," Ferguson wrote, adding, "perhaps he is still learning what it takes to play for Manchester United."

Nothing, he says, detracts from his long-term belief that Cole will become a great goalscorer for United, but the change of tone from his standard line of defence — that Cole may not be scoring but is contributing significantly to the overall cause — is marked.

United have drawn their past three matches and only Newcastle United's parallel fragility has softened the fall. With six regular players out, responsibility can be shifted from Cole's slender shoulders no longer.

Latchford's belief that Cole is a better player than he was 12 months ago may well be true. Cantona's first goal, neatly taken but set up by an intelligent flick from his partner, illustrated the point. But the fear is that, in the process of conversion, Cole has lost his basic instinct for goal. He might be a better player, but the goal charts say he is not a better striker.

One lightning volley on the turn (offside), a looping header which had Pressman backpedalling desperately and a shot on the turn, blocked in the dying minutes, were the sum of Cole's attempts on goal against a notoriously porous Wednesday defence.

Latchford knows that sinking feeling well. The year after his 30 goals for Everton, he went half a season scoring just three. "No matter how well the rest are playing, if you're not scoring, the doubts begin to creep in," he said. "You start thinking, 'Shall I make this run, shall I go there?' and as soon as you start thinking, you're lost.

"Then your team-mates start trying to set things up for you, you keep missing and the whole thing just gets worse. And the odd goal won't change it. He needs to have a good run, three or four in consecutive games, and then he will start expecting to score again."

There is no questioning Cole's commitment to United. He is moving into a new home in Wilmslow with his girlfriend and baby boy this week and from the bubbly, life-and-soul character who trains with a will every day there would be no telling his present trading deficit.

Cole rarely talks to the press but those close to him say his self-belief is still intact and that, like Ipswich Town, who last year conceded five to Cole and nine altogether, some team somewhere is going to pay dearly for the bad run.

In his own defence, Cole can legitimately point to a lack of service from the wings, caused by the departure of Kanchelskis and the more roving role adopted by Giggs. The latter was absent on Saturday and neither Sharpe nor Beckham penetrated the Wednesday rearguard deep enough to send over the quality of cross Cole was weaned on at Newcastle.

He must drool at the supplies Ginola and Gillespie — an essential part, ironically, of the deal which took Cole to Old Trafford in January — feed Ferdinand, his successor at St James' Park. The intricate flicks and the breaks from midfield on which United thrive require less selfish, more complicated skills of the centre forward.

Cole's confidence will not be eased by the fact that Wednesday relied on a two-man defence. Two defenders at Old Trafford? More kamikaze than *catenaccio*, but it worked. Had not Cantona, like some Gallic James Bond, halted the masterplan with a beautifully volleyed goal five minutes from time, the destruction of United would have been total. And deserved. For, though Cantona, McClair and Sharpe all had chances ranging from the gilt-edged to the golden, Wednesday were more inventive and livelier throughout the second half.

Their second goal, after Bright's lobbed volley equaliser, was pure Subbuteo, a move from left to right involving five or six players and some intricate passing which ended with an emphatic header by Whittingham from Degryse's perfect cross.

Doubtless it flitted across Cole's mind, as he watched, that those were the sort of goals he came to Old Trafford to score himself. "The tide will turn," Ferguson announced confidently. But it had better be soon, before King Cole turns into King Canute.

MANCHESTER UNITED (4-4-2): K Pilkington — G Neville, S Bruce, D May, P Neville — D Beckham, B McClair, P Scholes (sub: S Davies, 53min), L Sharpe (sub: T Cooke, 82) — A Cole, E Cantona.
SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY (2-3-3-2): K Pressman — P Atherton, D Walker — I Nolan, S Nicol, L Briscoe — M Degryse, C Waddle (sub: J Sheridan, 72), G Whittingham — D Hirst, M Bright.
Referee: P Jones.

PREMIERSHIP AT A GLANCE

		Played	Points	Goal diff	Recent form
1	Newcastle	17	39	+21	WDWDL
2	Manchester Utd	17	35	+16	WWDDD
3	Arsenal	17	30	+11	LWDDD
4	Middlesbrough	17	30	+8	DLWDW
5	Tottenham	17	30	+6	WWDDW
6	Aston Villa	17	29	+8	DWLDD
7	Liverpool	17	28	+14	LDLDW
8	Nottm Forest	16	27	+5	WLDDD
9	Leeds	16	25	+3	DWLLD
10	Chelsea	17	24	-2	LWDDW
11	Blackburn	17	23	+3	LWDWL
12	Everton	16	20	0	WWWDD
13	West Ham	16	20	-3	LWDWL
14	Sheffield Wed	17	17	-5	DLDWD
15	Southampton	17	17	-10	LLWDD
16	Manchester City	17	15	-17	DWWWL
17	Wimbledon	17	14	-14	DLDDD
18	QPR	17	12	-13	DLLDL
19	Coventry	17	12	-14	DLDLW
20	Bolton	17	9	-17	WLLDL

Weekly change Up Stayed the same Down

Celtic's revival upholds McStay tradition

JUST over a year ago, a group of visiting supporters to Easter Road held up cards that spelt out the words: "You'll never walk alone Paul." This was an expression of solidarity with the Celtic captain, Paul McStay, who had missed the penalty in a shoot-out three days earlier that saw Raith Rovers defeat his team to win the Coca-Cola Cup.

The raising of that message was a moving, if maudlin, moment, but it did not inspire victory. Celtic could only draw with Hibernian, extending a spell that would eventually bring a club record of 11 league matches without a win. On Saturday, McStay and his side returned to Easter Road and inflicted a 4-0 drubbing.

On this occasion, the travelling supporters had no need to be solicitous of McStay, but tomorrow evening he will monopolise every speck of emotion when Manchester United provide the opposition for his testimonial match. Genealogy and McStay's own inclinations have forged an extraordinary bond between man and club.

Two of his great-uncles captained Celtic before him and one, Jimmy McStay, went on to become manager. His older brother, Willie, played in the first team with Paul and is now youth coach. Another sibling, Raymond, was also on the club's books. The testimonial, though, is a reward for what Paul has made of his inheritance.

McStay was eager to talk last week of the delight that he had taken in watching a stylish Celtic youth team match the night before. Supporters and employers should cherish McStay for the anachronism that he is. A move to Italy did tempt him, and he came close to joining Udinese in 1992, but, for him, football really finds its meaning only with Celtic.

The club has been his cause since he made his debut, at 17, in 1982. The relationship, however, has not always been cosy, and McStay has discovered the cost of loyalty. As

KEVIN McCARRA



Scottish commentary

with so many child prodigies, adulthood brought him a measure of pain.

Celtic Park is full of spectators whose recollections of McStay stretch back to his precocious mid-teens, and some could even recall the precise spots in the Wembley nets that two of his shots struck when Scotland schoolboys beat England 5-4 in 1980. Those who have seen the whole of McStay's career, however, cannot help but attempt to take its measure. Then the cavilling starts.

In bad times, supporters complain of McStay's supposedly stunted development as a player, as if it were an image of the club's failure to realise its potential. The grumbling, given McStay's 72 caps and collection of medals, verges on the ludicrous, but it is true that he cannot, as an adult, be the overwhelming force he was as a youth.

Growing up is like that. Professional football, in particular, is an abrasive workplace. McStay is as fine a performer as unremitting dedication could make him. In addition, when he is berated for not winning matches single-handed, critics mistake the nature of his gifts.

McStay is a team player, expert at shielding the ball until a colleague is in place to take yet another imaginative pass. His level of performance is strongly influenced by the standard of the side. If there is no adept forward to find space, the accuracy of McStay's delivery carries less influence.

He is returning to his highest standards because an attractive team is once more gathering around him. Although Darren Dods, of Hibernian, was sent off on Saturday, the superiority of the visitors had already been established.

Celtic remain four points behind Rangers, 1-0 winners over Partick Thistle, but, for McStay, the benefits of this season may include not only the proceeds tomorrow, but also the emergence of a team that is worthy of him.

Venables ponders midfield dilemma

BY MEL WEBB

INJURIES suffered during FA Carling Premiership matches on Saturday have left Terry Venables, the England coach, short of two midfield players and possibly one striker in his squad to play Portugal in an international tomorrow night.

Robert Lee, one of England's most impressive players in the 3-1 win over Switzerland last month, and David Platt, the England captain, have both been ruled out, and a back problem has made Teddy Sheringham, the Tottenham Hotspur forward, doubtful.

Venables, who had already lost Jamie Redknapp, has resisted the temptation to replace any of the injured players, which improves Gareth Southgate's chances of becoming the fortieth player to be capped by Venables. Steve Stone seems certain to make the starting line-up for the first time after two impressive appearances as a substitute.

Lee, player of the month in November, sustained a thigh injury in Newcastle United's 1-0 defeat at Chelsea, while Platt withdrew with a strained hamstring, even though he completed Arsenal's goalless draw against Southampton.

Sheringham, in good form for club and country recently, also lasted 90 minutes after scoring the only goal of the game against Queens Park Rangers, but suffered a recurrence of a back problem that has troubled him in the past.

Tottenham happy for Sheringham to take strain

Tottenham Hotspur 1
Queens Park Rangers 0

BY ALYSON RUDD

TEDDY SHERINGHAM looked puzzled. He felt his hamstring tweaking but had been told that there was nothing wrong with it: he was suffering referred pain through sciatica. Indeed, an air of puzzlement pervaded the pitch at White Hart Lane. The home side must have realised that they were playing poorly, yet they were, curiously, in no danger of dropping any points.

Rangers knew the game was beyond them but could do nothing about it because, Ray Wilkins, their manager, said, they lacked confidence. This is undoubtedly true and was epitomised by the performance of Sinclair, who, instead of reminding himself what a dangerous winger he can be, chose to berate himself for ever having had the audacity to grace the FA Carling Premiership, and he snatched sulkily at whatever chances came his way on Saturday.

However, it is not simply a confidence problem. Whenever they could, and frequently when they could not, Rangers aimed for the head of Hateley. The former Glasgow Rangers and England forward is not ready for such responsibility. He is neither fully fit nor fully reacquainted with English football. But with Sinclair off colour, Impey playing defensively and Gallen timid, there were few alternatives open to the visitors, whose ebbing confidence was further eroded when they conceded a goal after three minutes, Sheringham tapping in Rosenthal's parried shot, when Tottenham's first-half contribution hardly deserved a mug of tea, let alone the lead.

Gerry Francis's team defends well and is possibly the most solid Tottenham side for years. Solidity does little to warm the soul, though, and the home support was so still that the odd limb could be heard snapping off in the cold. Francis has not killed off the flair completely, however, and must be commended for having moved Rosenthal onto the left wing, where he hares about tirelessly, offering himself to exhausting give-and-go runs and tormenting full backs. Had his second-half free kick not smashed onto the crossbar it would have been just reward for the most wholehearted performance of the afternoon.

Francis admitted that Tottenham had been casual and that the first 45 minutes constituted poor fare. He was far more enthusiastic about Sheringham's sciatica and the progress of medical science. "In my day I've been treated for hamstring and calf strains," he said. "They didn't know what referred pain was." Alas, both the home supporters and the visitors here knew all too well about referred pain. Snap, shiver, snap.

TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR (4-4-2): I Walker — S Campbell (sub: J Edinburgh, 85min), C Calderwood, G Mabbutt, C Wilson — R Fox, J Dozzell, D Howells, R Rosenthal — E Sheringham, C Armstrong.
QUEENS PARK RANGERS (4-4-2): J Sommer — D Bardsley, S Yates, A McDonald, T Challis — T Sinclair, I Holloway, S Barker (sub: L Charles, 78), A Impey — K Gallen (sub: S Osborn, 63), M Hateley
Referee: K Cooper (Pontypridd)

Collymore makes amends

Bolton Wanderers.....0
Liverpool 1

BY PETER BALL

"WHO'S Clough, Dad?" asked the boy on the Burnden Park forecourt. "One of those that Souness bought," said father dismissively. Two hours later, he might have been less dismissive. Nigel Clough bringing back memories of a Liverpool team which passed the ball lovingly, while all around him the other red shirts queued up to give possession away.

But Clough, and Sellars, who had a fine debut as Bolton's creative influence, were peripheral to the outcome of a game which Bolton dominated but ended, once again, with nothing to show for their football. The key figures were the strikers, and particularly Collymore, who scored to end Liverpool's run of seven games without a win and pushed Bolton back to the bottom of the Premiership.

For most of the game, Collymore had done nothing to counter the chants of "what a waste of money" from the home crowd. He and Fowler do not look like a partnership made in heaven; both gave the ball away constantly, giving their defenders little respite, and showing less than total commitment in the effort to get it back.

Roy Evans, the Liverpool manager, said: "On days like today, you want your two front men to start defending from there, but at this stage they aren't great defenders, they've still got that bit to learn."

But after an hour of lackadaisical contributions, Collymore scored a stunning, undeserved, winner.

Curcic, of all unlikely people, gave the ball away. It was poked up to Collymore, facing the wrong way near the touchline with Taggart at his back. Taggart was held off and turned with impressive power, and Collymore set off, cutting in past two challenges to hit the ball low past Branagan for a goal out of nothing.

Bolton could do with some of that quality. "I can't believe we've only got one point from our last two games, we've played so well," Curcic said.

With Curcic and Sellars, Bolton have more than replaced McAteer, with change to spare. They now have a midfield of real quality, dominating Liverpool as Sellars probed and Curcic ran at them, beating three or four at a time.

But Curcic hit the post with their best chance just before Collymore scored, and for all their pressure, they created fewer chances than the visitors. McGinlay's main moment of animation came in a clash with Wright. "I found his elbow in the back of my head after the game," McGinlay said with a wit he and de Freitas had never shown in their attempts to escape from Liverpool's defensive clutches.



Clough: pass master

BOLTON WANDERERS (3-5-2): K Branagan — C Fairclough, G Bergsson, G Taggart — S Green, S Curcic, A Todd (sub: M Patterson, 77min), S Sellars, J Philips — F de Freitas, J McGinlay.
LIVERPOOL (3-5-2): D James — M Wright, J Scales, S Harkness — R Jones, S McManaman, N Clough, J Barnes, S Bjornebye — S Collymore, R Fowler.
Referee: M Bodenham.

Leeds bankrupt of ideas

Leeds United 1
Wimbledon 1

BY DAVID MADDOCK

JUDGING by Howard Wilkinson's verbose press conferences, he regards himself as something of a football philosopher. After their last two visits to Elland Road, Leeds United supporters are entitled to wonder if he is more Fred Karno than Fred Nietzsche.

Defeat by lowly Manchester City was followed by a barely deserved point against another basement club, Wimbledon. Worryingly for the home supporters, their side seemed almost bankrupt of ideas in both games.

A set-piece strike from Jobson, a defender, late in the game salvaged a draw after a slick goal from Leonhardsen had given the visitors a fifth-minute lead, and Wilkinson spoke afterwards of ample possession and opportunities to win the match.

True, his side exerted pressure of a basic sort by playing most of the game around the Wimbledon penalty area. What Wilkinson overlooked was how comfortably their opponents dealt with a depressing, regimented bombardment.

In Yeboah and Brolin, Leeds have two of the most exciting, spontaneous forwards in the FA Carling Premiership, and yet Wilkinson chooses to serve them with an unswerving adherence to a ponderous, methodical game-plan. McAllister's unusual inaccuracy merely compounded the felony. Cantona moved across the Pennines to Old Trafford because his subtle nuances could not be translated into Wilko-speak. What price Brolin exercising the contract clause that allows him to leave Yorkshire at the end of the season?

The Sweden international, a veteran of skirmishes with the Italian press, offered little insight into the culture shock of leaving behind the beautiful game of Parma, conceding only that all managers have different tactical approaches.

He did confess to more than a passing difficulty in creating a partnership with Yeboah, a similar player to himself. "We were making the same runs, because I think we are the same type of forward.

"The problem is that we have only been together for three weeks, and we have to have more time together. But I think, given time, we can become a good partnership. We are intelligent enough to have an understanding."

Yeboah could have inspired his side to a late victory when a reasonable penalty claim after a surging run was turned down. Wimbledon deserved a little good fortune, as they surely had when Wallace saw his injury-time header hacked off the line. They offered what little incisive football there was and, despite defending for long periods, created the better chances.



Jobson: late equaliser

LEEDS UNITED (4-3-1-2): J Lukic — J Pemberton, D Wetherall, R Jobson, A Dorigo — S Deane (sub: R Wallace, 68min), G Palmer, G McAllister — G Speed — A Yeboah, T Brolin.
WIMBLEDON (4-3-3): P Heald — K Cunningham, A Reeves, C Perry, A Kimble — J Goodman, O Leonhardsen, R Earle — D Holdsworth, M Harford (sub: M Gayle, 65), E Ekoku (sub: V Jones, 89).
Referee: G Poll.

FA CARLING PREMIERSHIP

BOLTON (0) 0 **LIVERPOOL** (0) 1
21,042 — Collymore 61

Bolton Wanderers: K Branagan — C Fairclough, G Bergsson, G Taggart — S Green, S Curcic, A Todd (sub: M Patterson, 77min), S Sellars, J Phillips — F de Freitas, J McGinlay.

Liverpool: D James — M Wright, J Scales, S Harkness — R Jones, S McManaman, N Clough, J Barnes, S Bjornebye — S Collymore, R Fowler.

Booked: Harkness.

Referee: M Bodenham.

CHELSEA (1) 1 **NEWCASTLE** (0) 0
Petrescu 42 — 31,098

Chelsea: D Kharlee — M Duberry, D Lee, A Myers — D Petrescu, J Spencer, D Wise, E Newton, T Phelan — M Hughes, P Furlong.

Booked: Furlong.

Newcastle United: S Hislop (sub: P Smycek, 41mn) — W Barton, D Peacock, S Howey, J Beresford — K Gillespie, L Clark, R Lee, D Ginola — P Beardsley — L Ferdinand.

Booked: Peacock, Howey, Beardsley, Ginola.

Referee: R Dilkes.

COVENTRY (1) 5 **BLACKBURN** (0) 0
Busst 49 — 13,376
Dublin 60
Rennie 64
Ndlovu 74
Salako 88

Coventry City: S Ogrizovic — D Rennie, D Busst, C Whyte — A Pickering, P Telfer, K Richardson, M Hall — P Ndlovu, D Dublin, J Salako.

Booked: Rennie.

Blackburn Rovers: T Flowers — H Berg, C Sutton, N Marker, G Le Saux — S Ripley, L Bohinen (sub: B McKinlay 45), T Sherwood, D Batty — M Newell (sub: P Warhurst 34), A Shearer.

Booked: McKinlay.

Referee: S W Dunn.

LEEDS (0) 1 **WIMBLEDON** (1) 1
Jobson 76 — Leonhardsen 4
27,984

Leeds United: J Lukic — J Pemberton, D Wetherall, R Jobson, A Dorigo — B Deane (sub: R Wallace, 68min), C Palmer, G McAllister — G Speed — A Yeboah, T Brolin.

Booked: Wetherall.

Wimbledon: P Heald — K Cunningham, A Reeves, C Perry, A Kimble — J Goodman, O Leonhardsen, R Earle — D Holdsworth, M Harford (sub: M Gayle, 65), E Ekoku (sub: V Jones, 89).

Booked: Ekoku, Holdsworth.

Referee: G Poll.

MAN UTD (1) 2 **SHEFF WED** (0) 2
Cantona 19, 83 — Bright 89, Whittingham 78
41,649

Manchester United: K Pilkington — G Neville, S Bruce, D May, P Neville — D Beckham, B McClair, P Scholes (sub: S Davies, 52min), L Sharpe (sub: T Cooke, 82) — A Cole, E Cantona.

Booked: Bruce, Beckham.

Sheffield Wednesday: K Pressman — P Atherton, D Walker — I Nolan, S Nichol, L Briscoe — M Degryse, C Waddle (sub: J Sheridan, 72), G Whittingham — D Hirst, M Bright.

Referee: P Jones.

MIDDLESBRO (1) 4 **MAN CITY** (1) 1
Barmby 33, 55 — Kinkladze 18
Slamp 54 — 29,469
Juninho 75

Middlesbrough: G Walsh — N Pearson, S Vickers, D Whyte — N Cox, P Stamp, J Pollock, C Liddle — Juninho, N Barmby — J A Fjortoft.

Booked: Pollock, Liddle

Manchester City: E Immel — I Brightwell, K Symons, K Curle, R Ingram — N Summerbee, M Brown, S Lomas — G Kinkladze — N Quinn, G Creaney.

Booked: Lomas, Quinn.

Referee: S Lodge.

SOUTHAMPTON (0) 0 **ARSENAL** (0) 0
15,238

Southampton: D Beasant — J Dodd, R Hall, K Monkou, F Benali (sub: G Watson, 85min) — N Heaney (sub: M Oakley, 69), J Magilton, B Venison, S Charlton — N Shipperley, M Le Tissier.

Booked: Le Tissier

Arsenal: D Seaman — L Dixon, S Bould, A Adams, N Winterburn — M Keown — J Jensen, D Platt, P Merson — J Hartson (sub: A Clarke, 59), I Wright.

Sent off: Adams (54).

Booked: Winterburn, Bould, Merson, Keown.

Referee: P Danson.

TOTTENHAM (1) 1 **QPR** (0) 0
Sheringham 3 — 29,851

Tottenham Hotspur: I Walker — S Campbell (sub: J Edinburgh, 85min), C Calderwood, G Mabbutt, C Wilson — R Fox, J Dozzell, D Howells, R Rosenthal — E Sheringham, C Armstrong.

Queens Park Rangers: J Sommer — D Bardsley, S Yates, A McDonald, T Challis — T Sinclair, I Holloway, S Barker (sub: L Charles, 78), A Impey — K Gallen (sub: S Osborn, 63), M Hateley.

Booked: McDonald.

Referee: K Cooper (Pontypridd).

Yesterday

NOTTM F (0) 1 **A VILLA** (0) 1
Stone 82 — Yorke 48
25,790

Nottingham Forest: M Crossley — D Lyttle, C Cooper, S Chettle, S Pearce — S Stone, A I Hasland, C Bart-Williams, S Gemmill — S Howe (sub: A Silenzi 60min), J Lee

Booked: Cooper, Hasland.

Aston Villa: M Bosnich — U Ehiogu, G Southgate, R Scimeca — G Charles, M Draper, I Taylor, T Johnson, A Wright — D Yorke, S Milosevic.

Booked: Southgate, Taylor, Johnson.

Referee: P A Durkin.



Sheringham: consistent marksman

GOALSCORERS

	Lge	Cup	Euro	Total
Shearer (Blackburn)	16	5	1	22
Ferdinand (Newcastle)	17	3	0	20
Sheringham (Tottenham)	11	3	0	14
Fowler (Liverpool)	11	2	0	13
Yeboah (Leeds)	9	1	3	13
Wright (Arsenal)	7	5	0	12
Dublin (Coventry)	10	0	0	10
Scholes (Man Utd)	7	2	1	10
Yorke (Aston Villa)	7	3	0	10
Holdsworth (Wimbledon)	6	4	0	10

TOP-FLIGHT GOALSCORING

DIPPING into the lower divisions for goal-scoring talent can be something of a lottery, as some FA Carling Premiership teams have found to their cost — *it one looks under the* heading of "Bad starts" and "Disappointments", clubs such as Wimbledon, Southampton and Sheffield Wednesday appear more than once. A striker who has a record nearing the "prolific" in the lower reaches can find the goals dry up in the top flight: Chelsea's Paul Furlong is a classic example of this. Not so with Tottenham's choice of strikers. Both Armstrong and Sheringham have consistent records in all leagues, along Dublin of Coventry, Holdsworth of Wimbledon and Cole of Manchester United.

Nb. Premiership statistics include original First Division figures (ie. pre 1992-3).

	Premier division			Lower divisions		
	P	Gls	Per match	P	Gls	Per match
SUCCESS STORIES						
A Cole (Man Utd)	91	59	1.5	66	85	1.9
D Dublin (Coventry)	96	25	2.2	158	52	3.0
E Sheringham (Tottenham)	222	98	2.3	151	78	2.2
D Holdsworth (Wimbldn)	121	49	2.5	148	61	2.4
C Armstrong (Tottenham)	91	27	3.4	131	40	3.3
GOOD STARTS						
G Bull (Notts Forest)	1	1	1.0	128	47	2.8
J Hartson (Arsenal)	21	8	2.6	54	11	4.9
P Kitson (Newcastle)	28	9	3.1	155	42	3.7
J Lee (Notts Forest)	34	9	3.8	133	26	5.1
BAD STARTS						
C Hignett (Middlsbro)	34	9	3.8	176	55	3.2
J Goodman (Wimbldn)	32	7	4.6	109	35	3.1
G Creaney (Man City)	10	2	5.0	57	29	2.0
J McGinlay (Bolton)	14	2	7.0	228	103	2.2
C Mackell (Bolton)	37	5	7.4	192	86	2.2
G Blissett (Wimbldn)	31	3	10.3	355	118	3.0
DISAPPOINTMENTS						
S Collymore (Liverpl	68	27	2.5	58	34	1.7
M Bright (Sheff W)	274	92	3.0	141	63	2.2
G Whittingham (Sheff W)	54	17	3.2	173	96	1.8
B Deane (Leeds)	201	61	3.3	154	55	2.8
T Johnson (A Villa)	56	16	3.5	185	68	2.7
G Penrice (QPR)	102	21	4.9	231	71	3.3
R Earle (Wimbldn)	150	33	4.5	252	77	3.3
J Hendrie (Middsbro)	89	15	5.9	353	85	4.2
P Furlong (Chelsea)	85	14	6.1	79	37	2.1
J Magilton (Soton)	71	7	10.1	150	34	4.4

EUROPEAN

FRENCH LEAGUE: Auxerre 1 Monaco 2; Bordeaux 1 Basle 3; Lille 1 St Etienne 1; Lyons 3 Le Havre 2; Martigues 3 Gueugnon 0; Metz 0 Cannes 0; Nice 2 Guingamp 1; Pans Saint-Germain 5 Nantes 0; Rennes 1 Montpellier 1.

GERMAN LEAGUE: Saturday: Freiburg 0 Borussia Dortmund 1; 1860 Munich 4 Borussia Mönchengladbach 0; Karlsruhe 1 *Stuttgart 2; Düsseldorf 0 Bayern Munich 2;* Kaiserslautern 1 Bayern Leverkusen 0; Schalke 2 Werder Bremen 1; Uerdingen 2 St Pauli 5; Hamburg 5 E Frankfurt 1. Yesterday: Cologne 3 Hansa Rostock 0.

DUTCH LEAGUE: Friday: SC Heerenveen 0 Feyenoord 1. Saturday: F Sittard 0 RKC Waalwijk 0; Nijmegen 1 Willem II Tilburg 1. Yesterday: Vitesse Arnhem 2 Volendam 1; Sparta Rotterdam 1 Groningen 1; Utrecht 0 Twente Enschede 3.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Ajax	15	14	1	0	55	5	43
PSV	16	12	2	2	53	11	38
Willem II	16	7	7	2	36	19	27
Sparta	17	8	4	5	24	25	26
Heerenveen	17	6	8	3	26	26	25
Feyenoord	16	7	4	5	18	35	25
Roda JC	16	8	1	7	3	26	18
NAC	15	5	4	6	25	13	17
Vitesse	17	6	5	6	27	29	24
FC Twente	17	6	5	6	24	27	23
FC Groningen	17	6	5	6	25	30	23
RKC	17	6	4	7	20	24	22
Fortuna Sit	17	4	5	8	14	31	17
FC Volendam	17	3	5	9	15	35	14
NEC	17	3	4	10	16	42	13
FC Utrecht	17	2	5	10	14	34	11
De Graafschap	16	2	4	10	17	38	10
GA Eagles	16	1	5	10	20	34	8

ITALIAN LEAGUE: Cagliari 2 Atalanta 0; Cremonese 7 Bari 1; Fiorentina 3 Udinese 0; Padova 2 Internazionale 1; Parma 2 Lazio 1; *AS Roma 1 Vicenza 1; Sampdoria 2 Juventus* 0, Torino 4 Piacenza 2

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
AC Milan	17	9	8	3	1	20	9	27
Parma	17	13	7	5	1	30	12	26
Fiorentina	17	13	8	1	2	21	13	25
Atalanta	17	13	6	4	3	17	15	22
Juventus	17	13	6	3	4	21	13	21
Sampdoria	17	13	5	5	3	19	13	20
Lazio	17	13	5	4	4	19	13	19
Inter	17	13	4	6	3	15	10	18
Roma	17	13	4	6	3	14	11	18
Napoli	17	12	4	6	2	13	10	18
Vicenza	17	13	4	5	4	12	12	17
Cagliari	17	13	5	2	6	12	15	17
Udinese	17	13	4	4	5	12	15	16
Torino	17	13	3	4	6	12	20	13
Piacenza	17	13	3	3	7	13	25	12
Cremonese	17	13	2	3	8	14	21	9
Padova	17	13	2	2	9	11	22	8
Bari	17	13	2	2	9	17	31	8

SPANISH LEAGUE: Atlético Madrid 3 Barcelona 1; Real Santander 0 Valencia 3.

PORTUGUESE LEAGUE: Friday: Belenenses 0 Sporting Lisbon 1. Saturday: Benfica 2 Campomaiorense 0. Yesterday: *Amadora 3 Gil Vicente 1; Guimaraes 2* Chaves 1; Tirsense 1 Leca 3; Leiria 1 Braga 0; Felgueiras 3 Farense 1



Valdes, of Paris Saint-Germain, leaps higher than Guyot, of Nantes, in the match between the two clubs. PSG won 5-0 to remain top of the French championship

NON-LEAGUE AND NATIONAL LEAGUES

UNIBOND

PREMIER DIVISION: Bamber Bridge 3 Droylsden 2; Barrow 2 Boston 0; Bishop Auckland 1 Knowsley 2; Blyth Spartans 3 Chorley 2; Gainsborough 1 Accrington Stanley 1; Hyde 7 Buxton 0; Leek 1 Colwyn Bay 1; Marine 0 Guiseley 1; Winsford 3 Matlock 1; Witton 2 Spennymoor 2

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Bamber Bridge	23	15	6	2	54	20	51
Boston Utd	24	13	7	4	45	31	41
Hyde Utd	22	12	4	6	48	23	40
Guiseley	23	11	7	5	35	25	40
Barrow	17	11	4	2	42	17	37
Gainsborough	21	10	6	5	32	21	36
Emley	21	10	4	7	36	21	34
Witton Alb	22	10	4	8	36	34	34
Leek Town	22	7	8	7	33	28	29
Spennymoor	21	7	8	6	32	29	29
Blyth Spartans	19	8	4	7	33	30	28
Bishop Auckland	22	7	6	9	37	31	27
Accrington Stanley	19	8	5	6	33	29	26
Chorley	21	7	4	10	36	39	25
Marine	18	6	6	6	22	23	24
Winsford Utd	18	6	5	7	18	27	23
Colwyn Bay	19	4	9	6	18	26	21
Knowsley	23	6	3	14	27	52	21
Frickley	19	4	7	8	24	37	16
Droylsden	22	4	4	14	27	54	16
Matlock	21	3	5	13	22	44	14
Buxton	23	3	5	15	21	53	14

FIRST DIVISION: Curzon Ashton 0 Eastwood Town 0; Congleton 1 Netherfield 1; Fleetwood 2 Atherton LR 2; Gretna 6 Workspp 0; Harrogate Town 3 Great Harwood 2; Lancaster 1 Bradford PA 0; Radcliffe 3 Lincoln United 1; Warrington 0 Leigh 1; Whitley Bay 5 Ashton United 1.

BEAZER HOMES

PREMIER DIVISION: Atherstone 2 Crawley 1; Cheltenham 3 Baldock 1; Dorchester 3 Rushden and Diamonds 1; Gloucester 3 Cambridge City 1; Grantey 3 Gravesend and Northfleet 1; Ilkeston 1 Newport AFC 1; *Merthyr 0 Chelmsford 1; Stafford 2 Salis*bury 1; Sudbury 1 Halesowen 2; VS Rugby 3 Burton 1 Postponed: Hastings v Worcester

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Rushden and D	19	15	3	1	53	17	48
Cheltenham	20	13	3	4	44	21	42
Gloucester	20	12	4	4	41	22	40
Worcester	18	10	4	4	29	17	34
Halesowen	17	9	5	3	33	24	32
Merthyr	20	10	2	8	36	36	32
Burton	18	8	4	6	31	26	28
Newport AFC	18	8	4	6	27	33	28
Gresley Rovers	19	8	4	7	28	27	28
Hastings	17	7	5	5	27	25	26
Cambridge City	19	8	2	9	29	31	26
Baldock Tn	19	7	2	9	30	27	23
Chelmsford	19	6	6	7	20	25	24
Crawley Town	18	5	7	6	22	24	22
Sudbury Tn	16	5	5	6	28	26	20
Dorchester	16	5	3	8	29	26	18
Gravesend and N	15	5	2	8	25	28	17
Atherstone	18	4	5	9	31	38	17
Salisbury	15	4	3	8	23	30	15
Ilkeston Tn	18	4	3	11	23	45	15
VS Rugby	19	3	4	12	17	47	13
Stafford	20	1	2	17	24	62	5

Midland division: Bilston 0 Paget 2; Bridgnorth 4 Grantham 1; Bury Town 2 RC Warwick 5; Dudley Town 2 Rothwell 2; Evesham 2 Stourbridge 1; Hinckley Town 0 Buckingham Town 4; Leicester United 0 Moor Green 2; Solihull 1 Tamworth 3; Sutton Coldfield 0 Nuneaton 3. Postponed: Corby v Bedworth, Redditch v King's Lynn

Southern division: Ashford 1 Bashley 4; Braintree 7 Poole 1; Famham 0 Stlingbourne 2; Fishor 50 0 Tonbridge Angels 3; Forest Green 2 Weymouth 0; Havant 0 Cinderford 1; Margate 3 Fleet 1; Newport IoW 3 Clevedon 1; Waterlooville 1 Trowbridge 2; Weston-super-Mare 3 Erith and Belvedere 0; Yate 3 Witney 0

ICIS LEAGUE

PREMIER DIVISION: Aylesbury 1 Worthing 1; Carshalton 3 Cherisey 1, Harrow 0 Bishop's Stortford 0; Hitchin 1 Enfield 0, Yeovil 3 Hayes 0. Postponed: Boreham Wood v Walton and Hersham, Bromley v Purfleet; Grays v Hendon, Kingstonian v Dulwich; Molesey v St Albans. First division: Barking 1 Barton 4; Basingstoke 1 Ruislip Manor 1, Berkhamsted 0 Aldershot Town 0, Heybridge Swifts 3 Abingdon Town 0; Maidenhead United 2 Billericay 2; Marlow 2 Leyton Pennant 1; Oxford City 2 Whyteleafe 0, Tooting and Mitcham 1 Chesham 1, Uxbridge 2 Thame 2; Wembley 0 Staines 1; Wokingham 0 Bognor Regis 5 Second division: Croydon 2 Egham 1, Saffron Walden 2 Ware 1. Postponed: Bracknell v Witham, Chesham v Hemel Hempstead; Dorking v Metropolitan Police Third division: Cove 1 Clapton 0; Flackwell Heath 1 Kingsbury 2, Horsehell 2 Camberley 1, Horsham 3 Hanlow 0, Wealdstone 4 Hornchurch 0, Wingate and Finchley 1 Leighton 1 Postponed: East Thurrock v Tring, Epsom and Ewell v Lewes

HIGHLAND LEAGUE: Brora 1 Keith 0; Elgin 4 Wick Academy 0; Fort William 0 Forres Mechanics 0; Fraserburgh 1 Huntly 3; Nairn County 1 Buckie Thistle 1. Postponed: Rothes v Cove

COMBINED COUNTIES LEAGUE: Premier division: Ash 1 Eton Wick 0, Merstham 2 Viking Sports 0; Raynes Park Vale 1 Ashford 2; Walton Casuals 0 Farnham 3. *Postponed: Chipstead v Sandhurst;* Cranleigh v Netheam, Godalming and Guildford v DCA Basingstoke; Horley v Bedfont Westfield v Feltham

ENDSLEIGH MIDLAND COMBINATION: Premier division: Ansells 0 Olton Royale 3; Bloxwich 0 Wellesbourne 1; Handrahan Timbers 6 Shirley 2, Highgate 1 Upton 3, Massey Ferguson 5 Northfield 0, Moir NA 6 Alvechurch Villa 0. Studley BKL 1 King's Heath 3 Postponed: Chelmsley v Southam, Coleshill v Coventry Sphinx.

ESSEX SENIOR LEAGUE: Premier division: *Concord 2 Romford 5; Ford United 1* Eton Manor 1, Southend Manor 1 Maldon 1 Postponed: East Ham v Burnham Ramblers, Hullbridge Sports v Bowers; Stansted v Basildon.

FA CARLSBERG VASE: Third round proper: Wimerton 0 Fluton 4; Bushall Olympic 0 Bedlington 4, Brigg 2 Guisborough 0, Hebburn 0 Durham 4; Seaham Red Star 1 Belper Town 2; Prudhoe 1 Durston FB 2. North Ferriby 4 Eastwood Hanley 2, Chester-le-Street Tn 1 Lye 3, Easington Colliery 2 Anstey Nomads 3; Boldmere St Michaels 0 Trafford 2, Barwell 3 Moseley 1, Murton 3 Selby 5, Clitheroe 6 West Auckland 0; Willenhall 2 Chalfont St Peter 1; Whitstable 0 Peacehaven and Telscombe 1, Northwood 0 Godleston 1, Raunds 1 Furness 1, Canvey Island 2 Bedford Town 0, Hampton 0 Collier Row 1; Taunton 4 Chippenham 0, Bridport 2 Windsor and Eton 4, Lymington AFC 4 Bishop Sutton 0, Whitehawk 0 Banstead 2; Burgess Hill 2 Pershore 1, Tooport 4 Chard 2; Poulton 2 Falmouth 0, Tonnington 1 Chichester 2; Hungerford 0 Mangotsfield 0. Postponed: Thamesmead v Bentwood; Tilbury v Aveley; Slade Green v Diss, Wivenhoe v Edgware

FEDERATION BREWERY NORTHERN LEAGUE: First division: Peterlee 1 RTM Newcastle 2; Shildon 2 Whitby 3 Postponed: Crook v Consett; Eppleton CW v Tow Law; Ferryhill v Stockton; Whickham v Billingham Synthonia.

GREAT MILLS LEAGUE: Premier division: Bideford 3 Brislington 1, Bristol Manor Farm 9 Crediton 0, Frome 0 Cribo 0; Westbury 0 Barnstaple 0 Postponed: Tiverton v Backwell.

SUBURBAN CHALLENGE SHIELD: Group match: Postponed: Kingsbury v Ruislip Manor

HELLENIC LEAGUE: Premier division: Almondsbury 3 Abingdon United 2, Burnham 1 Brackley 3; Farford 0 Cirencester 2; Lambourn Sports 0 Eversleigh 1; Tuffley 3 Highworth 1 Postponed: Kintbury v Shorwood; Swindon Supermarine v Didcot

HEREWARD SPORTS UNITED COUNTIES LEAGUE: Premier division: Marlaes Blackstone 2; S and L Corby 2; Newport Pagnell 1 Eynesbury 4, Northampton Spencer 1 Kempston 0; St Neots 2 Stamford 2, Spalding 2 Long Buckby 1 Postponed: Desborough v Wootton, Holbeach v Stotfold, Potton v Boston, Wellingborough v Cogenhoe

INTERLINK EXPRESS MIDLAND ALLIANCE: Bolehall Swifts 3 West Midlands Police 5; Sandwell 0 Shifnal 0, Stapenhill 1 Oldbury 1 Postponed: Armitage v Hinckley Athletic, Rocester v Halesowen Harriers; Stratford v Blakenall

JEWSON EASTERN COUNTIES LEAGUE: Premier division: Clacton 2 Sudbury 3, Fakenham 2 Soham 1; Felixstowe 0 Tiptree 0, Great Yarmouth 0 March 0, Halstead 2 Woodham 2; Haverhill 1 Harwich and Parkeston 0, Newmarket 2 Wisbech 2, Watton 0 Stowmarket 0; Woodbridge 4 Comard 2 Postponed: Hadleigh v Lowestoft

JEWSON WESSEX LEAGUE: First division: Aerostructures 0 Christchurch 0; Bournemouth 4 Bemerton Heath Harl 0; Brockenhurst 4 Petersfield 2, Downton 1 BAT 0, Gosport 1 Eastleigh 3; Portsmouth RN 2 Cowes Sports 1, Ryde Sports 0 *Thatcham 1, Swanage and Herston 1* Totton 5 Postponed: Andover v Wimborne

LONDON SPARTAN LEAGUE: League cup: Second round, second leg: Binnsdown 3 Cockfosters 2; Hillingdon 1 Barkingside 0

MINERVA SOUTH MIDLANDS LEAGUE: Premier division: Biggleswade 1 Shillington 3; Arlesey 2 Tottington 1, Hatfield 3 Harpenden 0; London Colney 3 Buckingham Athletic 0 Postponed: Welwyn Garden v Hoddesdon, Dunstable v Broche Sparta, Potters Bar v Langford; Royston v *Milton Keynes*

NORTH WEST COUNTIES LEAGUE: First division: Blackpool Rovers first Helens 1; Bootle 1 Newcastle Town 0; Chadderton 1 Holker Old Boys 2; Darwen 2 Salford 1, Glossop North End 3 Skelmersdale 0; Kidsgrove 0 Prescot 1; Maine Road 2 *Nantwich 1; Rossendale 1 Burscough 1*

NORTHERN COUNTIES EAST LEAGUE: Premier division: Armthorpe Welfare 3 Shetfield 1, Arnold 0 Donaby 2; Glasshoughton Welfare 3 Ossett Town 0; Goole 0 Thackley 0, Maltby MW 4 Hucknall 3, Ossett Albion 0 Liversedge 2, Stocksbridge PS 2 Hatfield Main 0

OLD BOYS LEAGUE: Premier division: Old Isleworthians 4 Old Tenterians 0, Cardinal Manning OB 4 Old Danes 0 Senior first division: Sheno Old Grammarians 0 Old Wilsonians 2; Old Suttonians 2 Phoenix Old Boys 1. Postponed: Old Tenterians v Chertsey Old Salesians Senior second division: Old Tollingtonians 5 Mill Hill County OB 1 Postponed: Old Wokingham v Old Southalians, Old Manchindenians v Old Meadonians Senior third division: Old Hamptonians 1 Old *Salvatorian: 3, Old Tollingtonians 4 Old* Ignatians 2, Old Vaughanians 2 Old Buckwellians 2 Postponed: John Fisher Old Boys v Old Dorkinians.

SOUTH EAST COUNTIES LEAGUE: First division: Portsmouth 1 Charlton Ath 1; Arsenal 8 QPR 1 Postponed: Ipswich v Southend, Leyton Orient v Fulham, Millwall v Chelsea, Norwich v Gillingham, West Ham v Tottenham Hotspur; Cambridge v Watford Second division: Bristol 0 Luton 1; Reading 2 Bournemouth 1 Postponed: Colchester v Brentford; Crystal Palace v Barnet; *Oxford v Bristol Swindon v Brighton* and Hove, Tottenham Hotspur v Southampton, Wycombe v Wimbledon

SOUTHERN AMATEUR LEAGUE: Kew Association 2 NatWest Bank 2; East Barnet OG 0 Winchmore Hill 1; Old Latymerians 2 Midland Bank 0, Old Parmiterians 4 Old Bromleians 2; Old Salesians 3 Ibis 0, Bank of England 4 Regale Phony 0; Civaco 2 Merton 1. Postponed: South Bank Poly v West Wickham, Carshalton v Norseman; Lloyds Bank v Old Stationers, Alleyn OB v Old Westminster Ctz.

ARTHURIAN LEAGUE: Arthur Dunn Cup: Aldenhamians 3 Etonians 2.

SOUTHERN OLYMPIAN LEAGUE: Senior first division: Postponed: Ulysses v Nottsborough; Witan v O Owens Senior second division: Ealing Association 2 O Finchleians 4; O Bealonians 1 Hadley 2. Postponed: Mill Hill Village v Wandsworth Borough; Corinthian-Casuals v UCL Academicals; O Woodhouselans v Honourable Artillery Co

UNLIET SUSSEX COUNTY LEAGUE: First division: Langney Sports 3 Horsham YMCA 6; Pagham 2 Hailsham 3, Portfield 4 Shoreham 2, Ringmer 0 Wick 2; Southwick 1 Mile Oak 1, Three Bridges 3 Rossocks 3. Postponed: Arundel v Eastbourne Town; Oakwood v Stamco

WINSTONLEAD KENT LEAGUE: First division: Dartford 3 Ramsgate 0, Deal 0 Sheppey 0; Herne Bay 4 Corinthian 3, Hythe 5 Faversham 2. Postponed: Canterbury v Chatham, Cray v Beckenham

LONDON SPARTAN LEAGUE: Premier division: Beaconsfield SYCOB 0 Hanwell Town 2; Brook House 1 Willesden (Hawkeye) 1, Tufnell Park 1 Tottenham Omada 5 *Postponed: Croydon Athletic v St* Margaretsbury; Waltham Abbey v Amersham Town, Wootwich Town v Corinthian-Casuals.

BANKS'S BREWERY LEAGUE: Premier division: Bloxwich Strollers 2 Hill Top Rangers 0; Brierley Hill Town 1 Stourport Swifts 1, Cradley Town 1 Lichfield City 1, Wednesfield FC 0 Gornal Athletic 0; Wolverhampton Casuals 4 Darlaston FC 2 Postponed: Ludlow Town v Tividale FC, Malvern Town v Ettingshall Hr; Walsall Wood FC v Woodfields FC

AFA MIDDLESEX SENIOR CUP: O Aloysians 1 Polytechnic Res 0; St Mary's College 2 Brentham 1, O Salvatorians 1 O Actonians 4; O Meadonians 1 O Vaughanians 4; Lensbury 1 O Ignatians 4 Postponed: Crouch End Vamps v Civil Service, Alexandra Park v Barclays Bank; O *Lyonian v Broomfield*

FA WOMEN'S LEAGUE: Northern division: Huddersfield Town 3 RTM Newcastle 1 Southern division: Southampton Saints 6 Brighton and Hove Albion 0 Postponed: Oxford United v Ipswich Town; Three Bridges v Brentford, Wimbledon v Leyton Orient. League Cup: Second round: Postponed: Millwall Lionesses v Berkhamsted Town

NATIONAL

LEAGUE OF WALES: Aber Lido 1 Aberystwyth 4, Caernarfon 3 Inter Cardiff 1, Caersws 3 Bangor City 1, Connah's Quay 0 Flint Town 3; Holywell 0 Barry 2, Llanelli 3 Newtown 3; Llansamlet 2 Cornaes Bay 0; Porthmadog 0 Cwmbran 2 Postponed: Ebbw Vale v Briton Ferry; Ton Pentre v Rhyl

SMIRNOFF IRISH LEAGUE: Premier division: Bangor 0 Glenavon 1; Cliftonville 1 Linfield 1; Crusaders 1 Ards 2; Portadown 3 Glentoran 1. First division: Ballyclare 2 *Carrick 1; Distillery 0 Ballymena 1; Larne 0* Coleraine 2, Omagh 1 Newry 0.

BORD GAIS LEAGUE OF IRELAND: Premier division: Friday: Athlone Town 0 Drogheda Utd 2; Shelbourne 1 UCD 1. Saturday: Cork City 0 Dundalk 2, Sligo Rovers 0 Bohemians 0 Yesterday: Derry City 5 St Patricks Ath 1; Shamrock Rovers 2 Galway Utd 1.

POOLS CHECK

| | | | | | |

Reid talks warily of Roker wonderland

Ian Rodgers finds the Sunderland manager setting high standards

Sleeping giants exist solely in pantomimes and football clichés. Every season a list of underachieving clubs in crisis is drawn up and invariably the roll-call begins on Wearside. The past two seasons have been austere for Sunderland supporters. They have been forced to watch enviously as both Newcastle United and Middlesbrough have immersed themselves in glory.

On Saturday, after a 6-0 humiliation of Millwall, the Endsleigh Insurance League first division leaders, one local sports editor refused to lead with a "Sunderland wonderland" headline. Even the media coverage has been minimal in comparison with that of their neighbours.

Roker Park was formerly a bastion for high-profile management failure. Just ask Lawrie McMenemy. But the incumbent, Peter Reid, has never craved the spotlight. Reid is no stranger to the more challenging managerial roles. He manoeuvred Manchester City away from relegation only to find his tenure abruptly cut short just months later. His task at Sunderland bore a striking resemblance to his previous assignment.

Last season, Reid took charge when the second division loomed ominously. Sunderland's flirtatious relationship with relegation was never consummated. And the only coquettish behaviour on Saturday came from the unsettled striker, Phil Gray, when he gestured "affectionately" towards the bench after he struck Sunderland's third.

Their performance was made all the more remarkable by the fact that the personnel on duty were all involved in the struggle of last season. The irony was not lost on Reid. "It speaks volumes for the players," he said. "Once they relax you see the best of them."

Perhaps there is also an omen in Martin Scott's success from the penalty spot. Five misses may have cost the club early in the season, but Scott has now found the net twice in one week.

Sunderland were aided in their victory by a Millwall display that redefined the word inept. The run that has brought four successive league defeats will continue until Millwall's defensive frailties are rectified. The absence of understanding in the back four prompted all of the home side's goals. Uwe Fuchs, on his return to the North East after his move from Middlesbrough in the summer, bore his frustration openly. His display of petulance was eventually calmed when Eddie Lomas, the referee, advised the Millwall captain, Keith Stevens, to pacify the German.

The exemplary performances of Craig Russell and Phil Gray, the Sunderland forwards, contrasted sharply with the pique of Fuchs and the difference in attitude served only to polarise the sides even further. The four-goal exhibition from the impressive Russell merited the plaudits, but it was the energy of the team performance that truly ravaged Millwall.

Despite the unconfined rapture that accompanied this victory and consequent rise to the first division summit, Reid was cautious and refused to be drawn on the subject of promotion. "Derby and Stoke have got good results so I'm a bit wary," he said. "I am not daft, we're top of the league and it is an excellent position to be in. But we set ourselves standards and now we've got to keep them."

SUNDERLAND (4-4-2): A Chamberlain — D Rublicki, Martin Gray, R Ord, M Scott — Michael Gray, A Melville, S Agnew, M Smith — C Russell, P Gray.
MILLWALL (4-4-2): K Keller — G Lawn, A Rogan (sub: L McRobert, 65min), K Stevens, B Thatcher — D Savage, A Rice, M Doyle, J van Blerk — U Fuchs, C Malkin (sub: S Taylor, 71).
Referee: E Lomas.



Russell, the Sunderland striker, scores the first of his four goals during the 6-0 defeat of Millwall. Photograph: Doug Hall

Bull makes Luton pay for mistakes

Luton Town 2
Wolverhampton W 3

BY RUSSELL KEMPSON

MARK McGHEE, as he contemplates the morality of his latest walk-out, on Leicester City, and next port of call, probably Molineux, should not be deceived by the fare at Kenilworth Road yesterday. That Wolverhampton Wanderers won, and moved out of the relegation zone of the Endsleigh Insurance League first division, was more due to Luton Town's often awful defending than any coherent designs of their own. McGhee, should he be offered custody of the Hayward millions, will have much work to do.

For Bobby Downes, the Wolverhampton caretaker-manager, there was at least the consolation of his first League victory in a six-match spell in charge. Apart from a Coca-Cola Cup victory over Coventry City, and a less inhibited style of play, he has fared little better than his predecessor, Graham Taylor, who was overwhelmed by the burden of expectation at the club.

"There has been a lot of speculation about the job and I simply asked the players to try to be as professional as possible," Downes said. "They have been excellent, considering the circumstances, and I couldn't have wanted anything more from them. If this is my last game in charge, so be it, but I honestly don't know."

Jonathan Hayward, the Wolverhampton chairman, politely declined to terminate the intrigue. "Thank you, but no thank you," he replied to the invitation to reveal all. Yet, under McGhee, or whomever, Downes is likely to accept the offer of a three-year contract as youth development officer at Molineux, away from the monstrous spotlight.

Luton, too, could soon be welcoming a new manager. Last place in the division is hardly the best of endorsements for Terry Westley, who succeeded David Pleat during the summer, and the chant of his surname, followed by the word "out", became ominously frequent during the match.

Wolverhampton were 2-0 ahead after 19 minutes, through goals from Richards and Goodman, and although Luton narrowed the gap with a fluent drive from Oakes, another uncontested effort, this time from Bull, undid their endeavours. Six minutes into the second half, Thorpe's intricate run allowed Marshall to make it 3-2.

Little more was seen of Wolverhampton, such was Luton's intense if unco-ordinated pressure. How they did not equalise was mysterious with McLaren, Thorpe, Taylor and Oakes scorning chances. Westley, indeed, has his problems but McGhee, probably, will inherit just as many.

LUTON TOWN (4-4-2): K Davis — D Patterson, S Davis, M Johnson, R Harvey — P McLaren (sub: J Taylor, 59min), G Waddock, C Hughes (sub: B Guentchev, 76), S Oakes — A Thorpe, D Marshall.
WOLVERHAMPTON WANDERERS (5-3-2): M Stowell — M Rankine, D Richards, S Law, M Venus, A Thompson — N Emblen, M Atkins, D Ferguson — S Bull, D Goodman.
Referee: K Lynch.

Hednesford flourish after sunshine break

Farnborough Town 1
Hednesford Town 3

BY WALTER GAMMIE

THE players of Hednesford Town improved their prospects of persuading John Baldwin to take them for further mid-season breaks to Torremolinos by producing what their manager and joint owner described as "their best yet" performance in the Vauxhall Conference in winning impressively at Cherrywood Road on Saturday.

The squad returned on Thursday from a well-timed five days in the sun, paid for by Baldwin, to play with increasing panache in securing their eighth victory in ten away trips and consolidating third position in their first season in the Conference.

Pat Gavin, Farnborough's new signing from Harrow Borough, who has displaced Trevor Senior in attack alongside Chris Boothe, took four minutes of his first appearance to put his side into the lead. He was left unattended in the penalty area and swivelled to fire home.

Hednesford equalised in the twelfth minute, when Yates played O'Connor through the middle and his shot looped off MacKenzie, the Farnborough goalkeeper, and defeated the sliding attempts of Stemp and Williams to prevent the ball going into the net.

Farnborough's play in midfield was neat but they relied on forays by Denny and Baker and Stemp, the full backs, to make any telling inroads. Hednesford moved the ball more quickly and, thanks to an outstanding display by Lambert, who held up and distributed the ball superbly, they advanced from incisive counter-attacking to a position of full command.

The decisive goals were messy. In the 34th minute, after Lambert's run into the penalty area, Yates galloped up for a shot that the Hednesford camp said Street touched into the goal. Street was also credited with the third goal after another deflection as Hednesford put the match beyond reach in the seventieth minute.

Baldwin said: "I think you've got to put our away form down to the fact that teams have to come out at us more. They play deeper when we are at home and our pitch is not the world's best."

The difficulty with the playing surface is one of the teething problems of the move to the new Keys Stadium that made Hednesford decide not to press ahead with an application for the A grading that would qualify them for the Football League if they won the Conference.

"We've got enough on our plate at the moment," Baldwin said. "We haven't got the experience yet, both on the pitch and off it. It is not through lack of ambition."

FARNBOROUGH TOWN (4-4-2): S MacKenzie — S Baker, R Williams, K Baker, W Stemp — J Horton, D Robson, D Harlow, R Denny — C Boothe, P Gavin.
HEDNESFORD TOWN (4-4-2): S Cooksey — L Yates, S Esser, W Simpson, K Collins — G Fitzpatrick, C Lambert, S Devine, T Street — J O'Connor (sub: H Wright, 79), D Foreman.
Referee: P Griggs.

It's in the Bag!

FORREST GUMP
Original Soundtrack

THE BEAUTIFUL SOUTH
Carry On Up The Charts
The Best Of

PINK FLOYD
Pulse

CLIFF RICHARD
Songs From Heathcliffe

MELISSA ETHERIDGE
Your Little Secret

DAVID BOWIE
The Singles Collection

CHRIS de BURGH
Beautiful Dreams

GARTH BROOKS
Fresh Horses

HMV

Christmas at HMV

All titles subject to availability in participating stores

Edwards forgoes lucrative winter

FROM DAVID MILLER IN MONTE CARLO

JONATHAN EDWARDS, the record-breaking triple jumper, intends to forgo more than £50,000 in income this winter, as world champion, by not competing. Such is his commitment to preparation for winning a gold medal at the centenary Olympic Games in Atlanta next year.

His winter training programme, to increase strength and speed while being free from the stress of competition, is more important for him than chasing dollars around the world at indoor meetings. "I don't much like competing indoors anyway," he said, with that teenager's grin that is so disarming in someone already 29.

Edwards, elected the International Amateur Athletic Association (IAAF) male athlete of the year, returned home yesterday after receiving the award here, still as bemused by the pedestal of fame that he now occupies as when he leapt onto it with that memorable performance in Gothenburg last summer. At the International Athletic Foundation's gala dinner, he sat next to Prince Albert, the foundation's president, looking for all the world like Pinocchio discovering Pleasure Island.

He modestly told the assembled company, including six fellow world record-holders: "When the season began, I would have been happy just to reach the final and clear 17 metres."

He leapt into history with a jump of 18.29 metres, enough to clear a cricket pitch from batting crease to batting crease, or to jump from the crowd one side of Wimbledon Centre Court into the crowd on the other.

Yet Britain's seemingly innocent champion is no naive novice, however sudden his rise to prominence. He recognises both the transitory nature of his fame and the hard work necessary to win gold medals. While unable to explain fully his extraordinary improvement, he attributes it largely to the combination of out-of-season rest and his coaching-training-management programme.

Last winter, he was offered a paltry subsistence grant by the British Athletic Federation and was only able to continue full time thanks to benevolent support from Brendan Foster, his Tyneside "uncle". This winter, fame has generated its own subsistence.

His life is, in fact, singularly rationalised. When the presenter of the awards here offered him a special video, Edwards admitted that he and his wife have a black and white television and no video because they believe it gives them more time with their young children.

There is little doubt that he won the award ahead of such candidates as Michael Johnson, the 400 and 200 metres champion — for whom Primo Nebiolo, the IAAF president, has promised to adjust the Olympic schedule to help him to repeat the double — and Haile Gebresilasie because voters were touched by his integrity, too rare on the circuit. "His award is good for the sport," Professor Helmut Digel, president of the German athletics federation, said.

Digel warns of the decline that Western democracies face in the immediate future. "It is the culture of young people currently to want everything now, today, and not to have to wait," he said. "That is contradictory to the nature of athletics, in which you have to spend months, even years, preparing and waiting for the eventual award. Constantly competing for money impedes development."

Meanwhile, the money continues to flow. Nebiolo was able to announce new four-year sponsors for competitors' number-bibs in TDK (men) and Mita (women). The IAAF council is expected to confirm this week the 1999 world cross-country championships in Belfast as a symbolic gesture towards peace in that country.



Edwards and Gwen Torrence, the United States sprinter, with their athlete-of-the-year awards at the IAAF gala in Monte Carlo

Gebresilasie world's best by a distance

David Powell explains why he feels that the IAAF has named the wrong man as athlete of the year

The former chief of press for the International Amateur Athletic Federation (IAAF) alleges that the 1994 athlete-of-the-year voting was rigged. His successor has made the assurance that the poll this year is "absolutely clean". As clean as a Jonathan Edwards drugs test it may be, but the wrong man has won the award.

That is the opinion not only of your correspondent but also of two respected organs that conduct independent voting. *Track and Field News* has already named Haile Gebresilasie, from Ethiopia, as male athlete of 1995, and *Athletics International* is about to. When invited to vote in the IAAF and *Athletics International* polls, I, too, went for Gebresilasie.

It can be argued till the downfall of Primo Nebiolo (the cows should have made it home before then) which world record — Gebresilasie's in the 5,000 metres or Edwards's in the triple jump — carries the greater statistical merit. What cannot be argued is the relative interest in distance running and triple jumping. Like a raffle, which becomes harder to win the more tickets that are sold, success in distance running is more difficult to achieve because greater numbers aspire to it.

How many clubs struggle to field a B-string triple jumper? If a 5,000 metres runner drops out, the team manager just works his way down the list from the club's road running section. As Edwards himself said during the summer: "If you were choosing an event, you would not be a triple jumper, would you?"

Gebresilasie set two world records, at 5,000 metres and 10,000 metres, and a world best at two miles; Edwards set three triple jump world records and the longest wind-assisted jump. Both won world titles (Gebresilasie at 10,000 metres) and went unbeaten through the season.

It is Gebresilasie's 5,000 metres record of 12min 44.39sec that was the season's zenith. He took 10.91sec off the record. Not since 1932 had anbody improved the record by so much. Not Emil Zatopek, Vladimir Kuts, Ron Clarke, Kip Keino, Lasse Viren, Henry Rono, Said Aouita: not one of them. Legends all. The triple jump cannot compete with such an illustrious list.

Gebresilasie took 8.40sec off the 10,000 metres world record, becoming the first man since Rono to hold the 5,000 and 10,000 metres records simultaneously. This is not intended to denigrate Edwards's wonderful season, but to emphasise the brilliance of the Ethiopian's. As Peter Matthews, the television commentator, wrote in *Athletics International*, Gebresilasie's 5,000 metres was "the most stupendous display [of distance running] ever seen".

Since the awards were inaugurated, in 1988, there has not been a year like 1995. Edwards collected his prize from Monte Carlo Sporting Club with more chips on the table than ever before. Michael Johnson, the first man to achieve a 200/400 metres double in a world championships or Olympics, was third; Noureddine Morceli, who set 1,500 metres and 2,000 metres world records and retained his 1,500 metes world title, was fourth.

The most telling example of strength in depth among the contenders this year was the fifth place of Moses Kiptanui. This after setting 3,000 metres steeplechase and 5,000 metres world records and winning a third successive steeplechase world title. Ivan Pedroso could finish only seventh with more long jumps farther than 8.50 metres in a season than either Carl Lewis or Mike Powell ever managed.

One big point in Edwards's favour was that his world record came at the world championships. It says much about the scale of his achievement that Tim Hutchings, commentating on the awards ceremony for Eurosport, judged Edwards to have set "surely the world record of the year". Hutchings is a former Olympic 5,000 metres runner.

Ardingly's attempt to reach fifth final ended by Jeffries

BY JOHN GOODBODY

IN RECENT years, Ardingly, in West Sussex had been the team to beat in independent schools football competitions. Their crisp, sharply-angled passing, movement and athleticism had taken them to all the finals in the Boodle and Dunthorne Cup and the six-a-side tournaments in the past two seasons.

However, they lost all four finals and, this year, the college are going through a period of retrenchment. On Saturday, Bury Grammar School, playing with cohesion and resilience, beat Ardingly 1-0 to reach the semi-finals of the Boodle and Dunthorne Cup.

They will meet either Brentwood or Hulme, in Oldham, whose game on Saturday was postponed and will now be played on Wednesday.

Inspired by two stubborn defenders in Matthew Cockcroft and Stephen Tuke, both of whom will be available next year, Bury defended solidly against a flood of Ardingly attacks in the first half. Bury then became dominant in the last 30 minutes, winning with a goal from Paul Jeffries in the last minute.

Bury have now beaten both of last year's finalists, having disposed of St Bede's, Manchester, in the previous round. They have achieved their success without Ian Hyde, their principal goalscorer, who has also represented the north of England schools at rugby union, but who is sidelined at the moment by a broken foot.

In the three seasons of this cup, Bury had never previously progressed beyond the first round and had never been drawn away. However, their record this term, with only three defeats in their previous 18 games, meant that they possess the pedigree to defeat even a team of Ardingly's quality on their own ground.

Ardingly's fluent style has remained from the past two seasons but they lack punch in attack, despite having in Jun Okumura, from Japan, a forward of remarkable dexterity. Graham Dawtrey, master-in-charge of football, said: "We were doing very well until half-time with a young and inexperienced 15-strong squad, of whom only four will leave at the end of this year.

"I felt we were on top for the first half and I thought it would be a 1-0 game. We're good at defending. 1-0 leads and, if we had scored, we might have held out."

They had several chances early on and then, in the 28th minute, Cockcroft produced a neatly timed tackle to dispossess Okumura when the Ardingly forward was about to shoot.

The turning point came five minutes after half-time when Okomura's header was superbly stopped by Ian Willcock. Three minutes later, Roger Lingard hit a shot past a post and then Ruban Rajasooriyar just failed to convert a centre. But Bury finally broke through in the eighteith minute when Jeffries nodded home a cross from Dave Watson.

With two of the other quarter-finals postponed because of hard grounds, the only other side so far through to the semi-finals are Queen Elizabeth Grammar School, Blackburn, who upset Manchester Grammar School 2-1 last Wednesday. After 15 minutes, a penalty to QEGS was saved by Jonathan Lee, Manchester's outstanding 15-year-old goalkeeper. The resulting corner was cleared only for Chris Connolly to centre and Bummi Fayomi to head the ball home. In the 55th minute, Michael Collins, who was brought on as substitute at half-time, beat two players in a solo run and put QEGS 2-0 up. Mike Kintish scored Manchester's goal.

ARDINGLY: V Fung, Kwasi Bonsu, O Wilson, J Fairbrother, J Andrews (sub: J Lindsten; sub: N Holloway), M Turner, K Matsuura, M Webb, J Okumura, D Crichton, M Lacey (sub: T Boech)

BURY GS: I Willcock, P Grindrod, S Tuke, M Cockcroft, A Lawton, P Jeffries, R Smith, Z Mosawy, R Rajasooriyar, R Lingard, D Watson

SEMI-FINALS

QEGS (Blackburn) v Lancing or Lowmer Upper

Bury GS v Brentwood or Hulme

Ties to be played by Feb 3

SPORT IN SCHOOLS

Gallant Widnes add extra dimension to Trophy fare

Widnes	23
Wigan	28
(aet: 16-16 after 80min)	

BY CHRISTOPHER IRVINE

THERE is a glaring omission from the Christmas television schedules that Wigan put right with their version of *The Great Escape* at Naughton Park, another potent example of rugby league's capacity for grand theatre.

The sport is among the many slipping from the hands of the BBC, and while some would argue that it deserves to lose the lot after its lackadaisical coverage of the recent World Cup, this compelling collision on Saturday came as a timely reminder of its value above that of inexpensive filler material for *Grandstand*.

The BBC is in debt to Widnes. There had been quizzical stares at the choice of this Regal Trophy quarter-final for live coverage. It turned out to be an inspired move in a feature-length version lasting almost 121 minutes from dramatic opening to breathtaking conclusion.

It seemed that the first division side had caved in after 87 seconds, Tuigamala stripping away the Widnes cover to release Smyth on halfway, but Wigan spent the next two hours wondering just when a resolute home team would accept its fate.

Widnes were within five minutes of a famous upset when Wigan pulled back from 16-4 down to draw level. They led twice more, in each period of extra time, but were unable to come back a fourth time, the holders having done just enough to go through.

Such sterling opposition is depressingly rare for Wigan nowadays. Too many sides in the Stones Premiership lie down and are rolled over. With determination and tackling of the order that Widnes managed, those in the top flight were shown that it is possible to rattle Wigan, who were doubtless glad of the reminder.

Of course, their self-belief and elasticity in tight spots are legendary — although it seemed a little too tight in that Wigan alleged the pitch had been narrowed, a claim that Widnes denied. Tactically, Wigan had done some doctoring of their own, trying to run the ball early when the directness of the Widnes forwards, especially Hansen, McCurrie and Platt, showed the way.

Wigan shipped tries by Hulme and Pechey before the floodwaters broke over Widnes. If McCurrie had not been sin-binned for a professional foul, they might have resisted comeback tries by Quinnell — a galvanising presence — and the inspirational Tuigamala. A goalpost's width and Tyrer's last-minute dropped goal attempt in normal time would probably have killed Wigan off.

The common link in the visitors' three extra-time tries was Paul. Twice they fought back, after Cooper's dropped goal and a try by Wright had sent home supporters into raptures. The stand-off half opened up Widnes for another try by Tuigamala, whom he combined with again for Smyth's second, before setting in motion the unanswerable score by Connolly.

Connolly's exultant charge to the line was prefaced by Edwards raking possession away from Hansen at a play-the-ball — a move banned as of today. Not that any new rules could have improved this memorable encounter.

SCORERS: Widnes: Tries: Hulme, Pechey Wright Goals: Tyrer (5). Dropped goal: Cooper Wigan: Tries: Smyth (2), Tuigamala (2), Quinnell, Connolly. Goals: Farrell (2)

WIDNES: G Broadbent; J Devereux, M Pechey (sub: C Kelly, 93min), D Wright, A Thornley; C Tyrer, S Cooper, C Makin (sub: J Cassidy, 80); P Gartland, A Platt, P Hulme, L Hanson, S McCurrie.

WIGAN: J Robinson (sub: M Offiah, 67), R Smyth, V Tuigamala, G Connolly, M Offiah (sub: C Murdock, 40); H Paul, S Edwards, T O'Connor (sub: N Cowie, 67), M Hall, N Cowie (sub: S Quinnell, 59), S Haughton, M Cassidy, A Farrell

Referee: R Smith.

Leeds hold on to go through to last four

Leeds	44
Carlisle	22

BY CHRISTOPHER IRVINE

AS WIGAN have brought the best out of them this season, Leeds would probably settle for meeting the holders at home in rugby league's Regal Trophy semi-final draw today.

Since upsetting Wigan at Headingley on November 3, Leeds have thrown away their slim chances of winning the championship and shambled their way through to the semi-finals of a competition which represents their last hope of salvation in the centenary season.

Carlisle were buoyed by the ruggedness of their pack and the livewire inventiveness at half back of Kavanagh and Manihera, whose forceful tackle on Harmon juggled the ball free for Manning to pick up and score.

In the opening exchanges, Leeds could barely keep hold of possession. Iro, McDermott and Mann butter-fingered straightforward passes, before fingertip control was restored and Cook beat off three chasers on the right. When Iro feinted to pass and straightened up for a score, a possible avalanche beckoned.

Holroyd kicked ahead and dribbled his way through the Carlisle cover for a touchdown. Innes then beat off four tacklers to put Cummins clear before adding one himself.

However, Carlisle's determination had its reward in Manning's second try after the restart. Leeds failed to repeat the cohesion of the second quarter, yet Iro, Anthony Gibbons, and Shaw, twice, got over, although Graham ensured that the visitors finished the stronger with two excellent tries.

SCORERS: Leeds: Tries: Iro (2), Shaw (2) Cook, Cummins, Holroyd, Innes, A Gibbons. Goals: Cook (4) Carlisle: Tries: Manning (2), Graham (2). Goals: Richardson (3).

LEEDS: A Gibbons, P Cook, K Iro, C Innes (sub, G Mann, 50min), F Cummins; G Holroyd, D Gibbons; N Harmon, M Shaw, B McDermott (sub: H Howard, 29), J Lowes, G Mann (sub: G Mercer, 29, sub: McDermott, 56), M Forshaw.

CARLISLE: W Richardson; G Ruddy (sub: R Henera, 29), J Thurlow, M Lynch, P Manning; T Manihera, M Kavanagh, S Brierley (sub: B Williams, 25), D Russell, G Graham, S Rhodes, D Armstrong (sub: Brierley, 39), G Charlton

Referee: C Morris

Romans conquer Bethnal Green

Ivo Tennant samples the atmosphere on a gruesome night of gladiatorial endeavour

Before the decline of the Roman Empire, gladiatorial boxing matches culminated in the removal of one of the contestants from the amphitheatre, often not in any state for a return bout. These were raw, pugilistic events attracting a strident populace. A little like Bethnal Green on Saturday night.

They have known all about pugilism at York Hall: this was where the Kray twins fought as amateurs in the 1950s. At the weekend, there was a police presence to prevent antagonism between the supporters of Paul "Scrap Iron" Ryan, a former convict, and Ross "The Rooster" Hale, who, according to the programme, filled the role of "the strong, silent dark character who would sort out the local hard men". Security guards blended admirably with the clientele.

The surprisingly large number of women in a full house of 1,100 did not grimace when Hale's blood splattered beyond the ring, as it did in the first round: they knew the score. When the contest finished with a knockout after 2min 12sec, they took their costume jewellery and their menfolk off to an East End knees-up, for Ryan was one of their own.

There was no feuding. Two aggressors from the floor did make after Hale when he left the ring in a bloodied state, but it was unclear whether they felt he had let them down or given a feeble return for their £20-a-head outlay on tickets. At least they had seen six supporting bouts, five of which also finished in knockouts.

Satellite television covered all seven fights, but in other respects the entertainment had a dated feel to it — if not quite BC.

By the time the main event began, which was for the British, Commonwealth and World Boxing Organisation (WBO) international lightwelterweight championships, cigarette smoke had enveloped the seating area. The refreshments, which were much in demand, were of the sausage roll and hot dog variety.

I once asked Albert Roux which aspects of British catering needed most attention. He replied: "There is much to be done north of Watford." Here was a chef who evidently had not ventured down Old Ford Road.

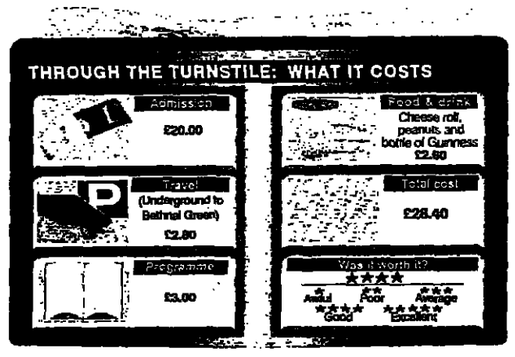
There were dated aspects, too, about the blonde who held up the placard proclaiming which round was to follow. Still, she was given her fair share of wolf whistles. The key to the success of the entire evening, as Frank Warren, the promoter, knew better than anybody, was to give the punters precisely what they wanted.

Ryan, who decided to take up boxing to prevent him from returning to prison for a sixth time — he describes himself as having been the worst burglar in Hackney — gave his all. That is to say, he flailed at Hale from the outset with the confidence of one who has stopped or knocked out 19 of his 21 opponents. He is a man scored only for percussion.

Since eschewing crime, Ryan himself has been burgled twice at his home in Hackney. Here is the familiar reasoning pitted against those who would abolish boxing: if he had not taken it up, he would still be inside. His is a compelling story.

To watch him squaring up to Hale, who was annoyed by suggestions that he might be scared to face Ryan, could not have been other than entertaining, even if I had not adhered to the advice of a boxing journalist. "Never wear a clean shirt to a fight," he said, and, sure enough, a drop of poor Hale's blood did reach me some 15 feet away. There is no such thing as the worst seat in the house at the York Hall.

Accustomed to sports in which fog or bad light can obscure the identity of a player receding into the distance, I soon saw the attraction of such a combat. Yet, on the other side of the ring, unnoticed amid the bedlam, sat the resident doctor, who knew better than anybody that there was nothing measured or elegant about the evening.



Alphand ends France's barren period

BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

LUC ALPHAND broke a 27-year jinx yesterday when he became the first Frenchman to win a World Cup downhill race in Val d'Isère. The last Frenchmen to win downhills in the country's most famous ski resort were Jean-Claude Killy and Henri Duvillard in 1967 and 1968 respectively — but they were participating in non-World Cup events.

Alphand has now won the past three World Cup downhills. The 30-year-old from Serre Chevalier also won last season's final event in Bormio.

But Alphand struggled against a strong Austrian squad in the race, which was held over two legs on a shortened course because of a lack of snow at the top.

With a combined time of 2min 20.71sec, he beat Roland Assinger by a mere 0.04sec, and another Austrian, Hannes Trinkl, was third in 2min 20.89sec.

Patrick Ortlieb, who won Olympic gold at Val d'Isère in 1992, ended a disappointing eighteenth, and his fellow Austrian, Josef Strobl, an unexpected winner at the resort last year, finished tenth. The Olympic champion, Tommy Moe, of the United States, fared even worse, failing to qualify for the second run.

Alphand said: "This is the most beautiful victory in my career. I'm very proud of myself. People can't realise what a feeling it is."

Atle Skaardal upstaged his compatriot and World Cup leader, Lasse Kjus, yesterday to underline Norway's supremacy in the super-giant slalom this season. Skaardal, a 29-year-old downhill veteran, clocked 1min 20.65sec to snatch the first super-G victory of his career and his first World Cup win for nearly two years in Val d'Isère.

Kjus, winner of the opening super-giant slalom of the season last week in Vail, Colorado, was timed at 1min 20.80sec. The World Cup overall leader finished in second place for the fifth time in nine races this season.

This amazing consistency has allowed him to build up a lead of 245 points in the overall standings over the second-placed Michael von Gruenigen, of Switzerland, a giant slalom specialist.

Hans Knaus took third place in 1min 20.98sec to confirm Austria's fine early-season showing.

The men's World Cup circuit now travels to Italy for a downhill in Val Gardena on Saturday.

Results, page 31

هكذا من الأصل

هكذا من الاصل

Ardingly's attempt to reach fifth final ende by Jeffries

Injuries take gloss off victory

Western Samoa shine despite treacherous pitch

South West 16
Western Samoans 31

BY DAVID HANDS
RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

WESTERN Samoa have one shot left in their locker after their long year, and they are reserving it for England on Saturday. After retreating from Gloucester with injuries to three key players, including their captain, Pat Lam, they will surely hope that it does not turn out to be a blank.

Knee injuries at Kingsholm on a dark and frostbound Saturday night to Lam and Kellett, and a knock on the shoulder suffered by Kaleta, must be balanced against the satisfaction of victory over one of England's divisional teams. Yet even that was faint praise, given that the South West division had 21 players either unwilling or unable to play and were down to their third choices in some positions.

That both sides were able to produce some flowing rugby was much to their credit after initial fears that too much frost might have permeated under the Gloucester pitch covering. If players tiptoed cautiously the nearer they came to the touchline, who could blame them, but after defeats in the CIS-sponsored series against the Midlands and the North, the Samoans still had the confidence to create four outstanding tries.

One of the features of this tour has been the direct running of their centres, led invariably by To'o Vaega. Injury to George Leaupepe has given Kaisa Tuigamala — no relation to the Wigan centre — more opportunities and he has seized them avidly; all three are able to inject pace into the midfield, which caught a raw South West on the hop and squeezed an outstanding display in cover defence out of Beal.

Another unknown, Onehunga Matauiau, has made his mark: nominally a hooker, he is as liable to turn up in midfield or on the wing. Before the tour, he was captain of the Samoan colts and as likely to play second five-eighth for his club as in the front row, hence his confrontational running skills, which supplemented those of his centres to such good effect.

"We have had our ups and downs but I think we have maintained our credibility," Bryan Williams, the coach, said. Considering the fixture list his team has faced (they play England A tomorrow as a prelude to their international finale), he makes a fair point; more credibility than the divisional system, now generally discredited but which has proved its value this season.

"I think we in the South West have taken Jack Rowell's message to the letter and we've produced developing players," John Lockyer, the division's chairman of selectors, said.

Rob Andrew, the former England stand-off half, is expected to come up against Jonathan Davies, the former Wales No 10, who recently returned to rugby union from rugby league, in the new year. Newcastle, Andrew's club, are planning to play Cardiff at St James' Park and Davies, who is recovering from a hernia operation, should be fit to supply the main draw card.

"We have given young men, some of whom do not get much first-team rugby and one from the fourth division, the chance to show what they can do against World Cup quarter-finalists."

For the first half, the youngsters carried the game to the Samoans with some gusto. Yandell, winning a lineout, found himself the focal point of a running maul and was still in possession when he wrenched clear of it and drove over the Samoan line. Dix, seldom seen in Harlequins' first team, dropped a couple of neat goals but two outstanding tries by the Samoans earned them a 15-11 advantage at half-time.

Invariably Filemu, the little scrum half, was at the creative heart: his centres made much of the running. Kaleta chimed in and Patu cut through the remaining shreds of cover. The full back also laid on the grub kick, chased down the right wing by Birtwhistle, which caused grunts of indignation from nearby lock forwards of yesteryear.

However, Birtwhistle also proved adept at the more recognisable second-row skills: he and his colleagues dominated the set-pieces in the second half, and they also spirited away much of the secondary ball, denying the South West the chance to build attacks, despite the constant foraging of Glanville, one of five Gloucester players.

Kellett's boot extended the lead before he limped off, though Autagavaia, his replacement, scored with his first touch of the ball after Patu made the initial break. The South West's reshuffle, after Dix's injury, was far more complex, Hull moving to stand-off, Beal to full back and Stafford, the student, taking the beginner's course on the wing: yet it all came together behind a lineout when Hull looped and Enoch, who has played on Pontypridd's wing this season, dummied the defence and drove like an arrow for the corner.

There was a school of thought which felt Didier Méné, one of France's international referees, might have ended proceedings at that stage, so hard was the ground. But he played out time, which permitted the Samoans an 80-metre revel, Lima doing much of the running against a disconcerted defence before Vaega gave Telea the try.

SCORERS: South West Division: Tries: Yandell, Enoch. Dropped goals: Dix (2). Western Samoans: Tries: Patu, Birtwhistle, Autagavaia, Telea. Conversion: Kellett. Penalty goals: Kellett (3).

SOUTH WEST DIVISION: P Hull (Bristol, captain); N Beal (Northampton), A Turner (Exeter), S Enoch (Pontypridd), P Holford (Gloucester); R Dix (Harlequins), B Fenley (Gloucester); A Windo (Gloucester), K Dunn (Wasps), D Hankins (Bristol), P Glanville (Gloucester), D Sims (Gloucester), C Yandell (Saracens), J Pearson (Bristol), E Rolitti (Bristol). Dix replaced by B Stafford (Brunel University, 66min).

WESTERN SAMOANS: H Patu; B Lima, T Vaega, K Tuigamala, A Telea; D Kellett, J Filemu; M Mika, O Matauiau, P Fatialofa, S Kaleta, M Birtwhistle, I Fa'anilko, S Vaifale, P Lam (captain). Lam replaced by S Smith (15), Kaleta replaced by B Reidy (40), Kellett replaced by A Autagavaia (70).

Referee: D Méné (France)



Thorneycroft, the Midlands wing, finds his path blocked by North's defensive cover during the divisional match at Beeston. Photograph: Des Jenson

Cotton warns against divisional demise

Midlands 42
North 45

BY JOHN HOPKINS

WHAT a funny game this was. After watching the teams score more than a point a minute and be separated by only three points at the end, one had to work hard to realise this was not a festival game but a rousing conclusion to the sponsorship by CIS of the divisional championship and, probably, to the divisional championship itself.

That the North had won the title for a record fifth time was only brought home when television lights cut through the gloom at foggy Beeston to highlight Paul Johnson accepting the trophy and, moments later, when one heard Johnson's team burst into a rather bedraggled version of *On Ilkley Moor Bah't at.*

There have been plenty of low-scoring, unadventurous and unskilful games lately. The penetrative whistle of an insistent referee has been heard quite often enough, too.

This game was refereed by Ian Rogers, of South Africa, who will be in charge when England play Western Samoa at Twickenham on Saturday, with a benevolence appropriate to the time of year. The game contained enthusiasm, pace and skill and it rather bore out what Fran Cotton, the chairman of the northern division's selectors, had said earlier in the season about the validity of the divisional championship.

"More club league matches are not the answer," Cotton said. "I'm convinced that we need competition at a higher level than club rugby. It may end up as a combination of clubs and division, but there's no way that teams like Bath and Leicester could start to compete with Auckland, Queensland and Transvaal at this stage. They're not in the same class. They're 30 points adrift."

After watching the victory of his North team, which contained ten changes from the side that had defeated the Western Samoans on Tuesday, Cotton was even more convinced of the future of this type of rugby. "The big difference between the southern hemisphere's international rugby and ours is that they play at a consistently higher level," Cotton said.

TABLE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
North	3	3	0	0	101	66	6
Midlands	3	2	0	1	94	90	4
South West	3	1	0	2	52	65	2
London	3	0	0	3	54	80	0

"I don't see any of our clubs providing players with that sort of experience. Divisional rugby, on the other hand, takes players out of the comfort zone of club competition into representative rugby, which is entirely different. There we can see individual players' strengths and weaknesses. It is a mistake to think this can only be done in club rugby.

"Too often in the past we have just pulled sides together for the big occasion and, as a result, we have been easy meat for South Africa and New Zealand. When the Lions go and tour down there, we have always played against established teams. I think it would be disastrous if the divisional championship was scrapped."

Cotton attributed North's victory to the play of their threequarters. "To score 45 points with so little possession was quite something," he said. "Midlands played positive rugby but they tended to score from pressure points. North played the more expansive game. Our backs were much more penetrative. To think that we did it after having to make so many changes from Tuesday's game is a hell of an achievement."

It was a pleasure to see the thunderous charges of the high-stepping Jim Mallinder, the swerving running of Austin Healey and the deft touches by John Farr, the Midlands scrum half. The subtle kicks of Paul Challinor and the roaming instincts of Matt Greenwood were to be relished, too. All in all, the events at Dovecote Lane, Beeston, one of Nottingham's lacier suburbs, were a pleasant surprise and will remain in the memory for a long time.

SCORERS: Midlands: Tries: Challinor (2), Greenwood, Pountney, Farr, Whetstone. Conversions: Quantrill (3). Penalty goals: Quantrill (2). North: Tries: Baxendell (2), Healey (2), Greenwood, penalty try. Conversions: Liley (6). Penalty goal: Liley.

MIDLANDS: J Quantrill (Rugby); A Smallwood (Nottingham), B Whetstone (Bedford), A Kerr (Moseley), H Thorneycroft (Northampton); P Challinor (Harlequins), J Farr (Mmnington Park); M Volland (Northampton), R Cockerill (Leicester), N Webber (Moseley), I Skingsley (Bedford), J Lee-Phillips (Northampton), D Grewcock (Coventry), A Pountney (Northampton), C Tarbuck (Leicester, captain).

NORTH: J Mallinder (Sale), A Healey (Orrell), J Baxendell (Sale), P Johnson (Orrell, captain), C Yates (Sale), R Liley (Sale), D Scully (Wakefield); G Baldwin (Wakefield), G French (Bath), M Shelley (West Hartlepool), R Arnold (Newcastle), K Westgarth (Wes) Hartlepool), P Stewart (Wakefield), A Brown (West Hartlepool), M Greenwood (Wasps) Yates replaced by C Lee (West Hartlepool, 40min)

Referee: I Rogers (South Africa).

Another day, another team for genial Gallagher



Gallagher: available

BY ALISON KERVIN

JOHN GALLAGHER, the former All Black, made his England club debut for Harlequins against Rosslyn Park on Saturday, providing yet more evidence that he is the most available of all rugby players.

Gallagher can play for just about anyone. He is qualified to play international rugby for England, Ireland and New Zealand, and he has played rugby union and rugby league. In the past few weeks, he has played a benefit match in Wales, has been a replacement for the Irish Exiles, and tried to play county rugby with Kent, only for his attempt to be aborted by the Rugby Football Union (RFU), which was still considering its stance on former rugby league players.

In order to play for Harlequins, he was given an eleventh-hour reprieve by the RFU, but even if it had scuppered his plans to play in London, another option was already lined up. "I always knew they [the RFU] were having a meeting on Thursday and Friday to decide whether I would be able to play," Gallagher said. "Garryowen club in Ireland were aware of that, and there was an understanding that, if the RFU said I couldn't play for Harlequins, I would fly up to play in Ireland."

Gallagher, 31, was born in London of Irish parentage. His family moved to New Zealand, where he played for the All Blacks in their glory days, becoming one of the great full backs and winning 18 caps in their world-beating years of 1987-89. Then, at the peak of his career, he hot-footed back to England and signed a record rugby league deal with Leeds. Once he had taken that decision, his hopes of playing union again rested on him serving a three-year ban.

"Last March, I thought I had played my last game of competitive rugby," Gallagher said on Saturday. "I was looking to get involved in coaching while I sat out my union ban, then the sport went professional and everything changed. It is six years since my last competitive rugby union game, but this match against Rosslyn Park was an ideal game to come back to because we ran everything."

Although he is available for selection, Gallagher is unlikely to play for England because of the RFU's decision to make rugby league players ineligible for competitive matches. Ireland, on the other hand, have shown themselves to be very interested. There were scouts at The Stoop on Saturday, and, as Gallagher appeared after the match in a bottle-green jumper, with his distinctively Irish red hair, relaxed temperament and sense of humour, the future seemed decidedly green.

Dick Best, the Harlequins director of coaching, said: "I'll be surprised if he does not play for Ireland against England [in March]." Ireland's interest can be traced to 1989, Gallagher says, because of his appearance. "It's because I look like an Irishman," he said. "In the All Blacks team, there were all these big Maori boys and me — looking Irish."

He admits to being flattered by all the attention from international teams, but is still unsure about his future. "My ambition now is to play for Harlequins next week," he said. "If I get higher honours, so be it. At this stage, I am just pleased to be back."

Gallagher contributed a try to Harlequins' 74-22 victory, after a 60-metre sprint for the line. He scored 17 points in total, landing six conversions from 11 attempts in a satisfying comeback.

Rowell focuses on developing theme

BY DAVID HANDS

JACK ROWELL has not had much to celebrate this season but his mood was upbeat when England completed a weekend's training at fog-bound Twickenham yesterday. His young half backs, Matt Dawson and Paul Grayson, fitted smoothly into the preparations for Saturday's international against Western Samoa, and his squad was fit.

The one exception, Mark Regan, is expected to play. The Bristol hooker, whose collection of two yellow cards threatened last week to remove him from contention, turned an ankle while scrummaging but the team management is not unduly concerned.

"We are trying to put a pattern on the game," Rowell, the manager, said. "We ran off the rails against South Africa last month but we must achieve a balance between the running game and using the boot.

"Rob Andrew had ideas how to do that, so did Stuart Barnes, and now it's up to our new half backs to find the pattern which suits English rugby.

"Grayson has come through very strongly, and that allows us to play a running full back. But you can't play any game with the high error rate we had against South Africa: we didn't tackle well and, when we did start running, it was rather lateral."

The elevation of the Northampton halves is symptomatic of the encouraging development Rowell perceives, and which he would prefer to focus on rather than the constant debate on behind-the-scenes dealing which has been such a feature of this season.

Several England players are believed to have signed letters of intent for an embryo international club competition which, if its credibility is to be sustained, must come good by next weekend.

"You have to be concerned when there is talk of players going elsewhere and the possible money involved," Rowell said. "But I don't think that what's being suggested is in the long-term interests of English rugby and, even if it takes off, I think it will be transient. Does rugby union need circuses?

"We need to enmesh gears with the southern hemisphere and give the game exposure. The sooner players get out of the part-time scenario, the better. We are up against full-timers, we need training camps otherwise we play with one arm tied behind our backs. The player staying in a job must be at a disadvantage."

Alain Carminati is one of three players from the squad which played against New Zealand last month to be dropped for France's training weekend next month. Nor do Stephan Graou or Olivier Azam find places among those from whom the XV to play England in the opening match of the five nations' championship, in Paris on January 20, will be drawn.

Geoff Evans has resigned as manager of Wales in the wake of the appointment of Kevin Bowring as the full-time national coach. Evans took over the managerial role last March after the resignation of Robert Norster and the departure of the coaches, Alan Davies and Gareth Jenkins. In his time as manager, Wales won only two of their five international matches and have also lost to South Eastern Transvaal.

Derek Quinnell will step in as a short-term team co-ordinator until Wales appoint their new director of rugby in the new year.

Allan Lewis, the Llanelli coach, will join Bowring on the Wales coaching team. He will be paid £1,000 per international for a contract which lasts until the end of next summer's tour of Australia.

Lewis, who has had experience with Wales at under-19, under-21 and A-team level, will have to relinquish his duties at Stradey Park.

FRENCH TRAINING SQUAD: Backs: J-L Sadourny, E N'Tamack, D Berty, P Bernat-Salles, D Venditti, P Saint-André, R Dourthe, C Lamaison, Y Delaigue, T Lacroix, A Penaud, T Castaignède, G Accoceberry, P Carbonneau. Forwards: M Perie, F Tournaire, C Califano, L Benezech, J-M Gonzalez, H Bursaud, M de Rougemont, J-P Versailles, Y Lemeur, O Merle, F Pelous, O Roumat, P Farrer, A Benazzi, L Cabannes, M Lievremont, C Juillet

Oxford rely on Riondet's Gallic flair

Alison Kervin on the colourful Frenchman who is about to claim an historic Blue

Spotting Jérôme Riondet among the dark blue shirts at Twickenham tomorrow should not demand extraordinary powers of observation. The first Frenchman to win a Blue in the Varsity match's 114-game history has displayed a penchant for rolling head-over-heels as he runs on to the pitch, and beating himself furiously like Tarzan once he stands up.

It is all part of the image he has forged for himself at Oxford as the *enfant terrible* of the side, described by his coach as being "a bit of a Cantona", and provoking the wrath of officials at the university by refusing to wear the standard blue tie, favouring a more modern and much brighter design.

"I am extravagant sometimes — not very straight like English people are," he said. "I played last year for Harlequins. They have the nicest jerseys of all, not too dark, you know?"

No doubt his fashion sense was developed while playing for Racing Club, the glamorous, dashing Paris side whose *joie de vivre* manifests itself in a preference for champagne and pink bow ties.

Riondet, 24, was born in Grenoble and educated at the Sorbonne in Paris. He is now studying for a diploma in social administration at Oxford, and making valiant efforts to develop his English.

His use of the language has improved dramatically since his arrival last year, but the words are still spoken with a lilting accent, brimming with mischief. His sentences are punctuated with apologies for his poor mastery of English, and he confesses that there have been moments when it has been very difficult.

"It can sometimes be hard, working with so many nationalities in a team, and I get most confused with the language in defence. If they shout 'He's your man' or 'It's his man', or 'He's my man', I get very confused."

His Oxford team-mates will be hoping fervently that all moments of confusion are far behind him tomorrow. The university has had a depressing season while Cambridge have done extremely well.

"Our problem at Oxford is definitely up here [he taps his head]. We are too soft sometimes. In the Varsity, we need to concentrate and play well from the start. We need to get ourselves into space because we are good runners, but we need the ball."

Although the only Frenchman in a cosmopolitan team, Riondet has been made to feel quite at home because Pierre Villepreux, part of the Oxford coaching team, added a pinch of French flair to training sessions before Riondet's arrival.

"It is not very different playing at Oxford to playing at Paris, but last year at Harlequins it was traditional English training, no back moves and practising without opposition — that was hard. At Oxford, we work all the time with opposition, so it is more like the French style.



Riondet: extravagant

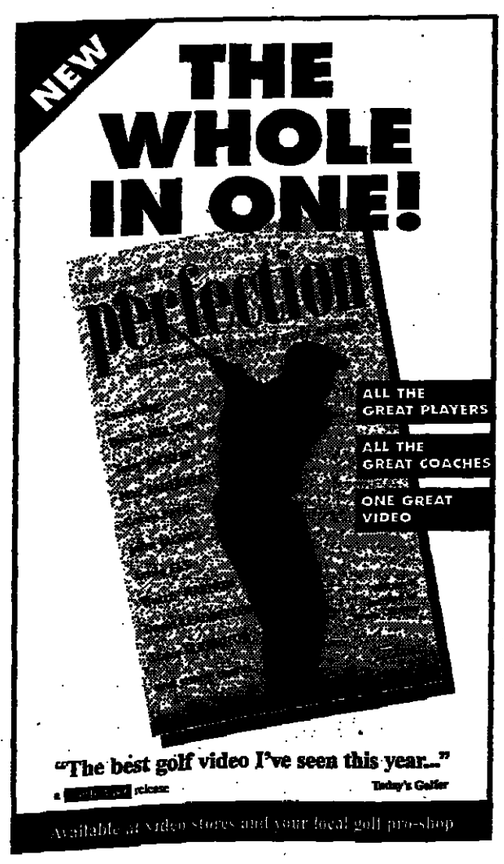
"Once we are on the pitch, I sometimes think the main difference between the English and the French is that, in England, you wait until the referee turns round, then you punch someone. In France, we react too quickly and the referee sees us."

Riondet's next move, although he insists that he lives very much for the moment, is to get into the French students squad for the World Cup in South Africa in July; but he has a problem.

"The coach of the students is the former Racing Club coach and we were never very friendly," he said. "It is not like England. Over here, you can keep working away in the squad and make it in to the team eventually. In France, when the coach changes, the whole team changes. You can be OK with one coach, but with another one it is completely different."

Riondet is taking the role of first Frenchman to represent Oxford very seriously, and his ultimate goal is to find himself in the winning side at Twickenham. "When I dream of this game, we are all there saying, 'Yes we won, we won'. I cannot imagine us sitting there on the grass after the game saying, 'We lost it'. I cannot imagine it."

Varsity phenomenon, page 7



Tax reduction will be passed on

Backers to reap full benefit of betting duty cut

BY RICHARD EVANS, RACING JOURNALIST OF THE YEAR

BETTING shop punters will have deductions reduced from 10p to 9p in the pound after the Budget cut in betting duty, and racing still stands to benefit by several million pounds, it emerged yesterday.

In a series of developments over the weekend, the British Horseracing Board (BHB) confirmed that Treasury ministers last week insisted that off-course backers must have deductions on bets reduced by a full penny in the pound as a result of the 1 per cent cut in duty announced by Kenneth Clarke, the Chancellor of the Exchequer.

However, fears that the Government directive could hit the amount of cash left for racing were quickly put to rest by Customs, which administers betting duty. Mark Thompson, a Customs spokesman, said yesterday: "When you do the figures there is a little bit of money left over, 14.92p for every £109 bet, which adds up to between £5 million and £8 million. That would certainly be a reasonable amount to help racing and greyhounds."

The figure of 14.92p is a "worst possible scenario", Thompson added. "It could be as high as 16.75p." The Customs figures are most revealing and contradict the claims of the big bookmakers, represented by the Betting Office Licensees' Association (Bola), which has insisted there is no surplus money from the deductions charged to punters. Tom Kelly, the Bola director-general, is even on record as saying the liability for betting shops with higher levels of turnover is a fraction more than the existing 10 per cent charged to punters.

The way in which bookmakers have charged deductions of 10 per cent — with existing rates of betting duty and levy accounting for less than 9 per cent — has been the subject of much controversy, with punters claiming bookmakers are lining their own pockets at the punters' expense.

In 1991, the Commons home affairs select committee described the 10 per cent reduction as being "wrapped within a cloud of unknowing" and was highly critical of the bookmakers, particularly for their "entirely indefensible" use of unrecoverable VAT in deductions.

With talks likely to start this week between bookmakers and racing over how the proceeds of the 1 per cent betting duty cut should be divided, the Customs figures could be vital in debunking the arguments of the betting industry involving the inflated deductions it imposes.

Whatever the outcome of the talks, the new 9 per cent rate of deduction paid by punters is expected to increase betting turnover by between 3 and 4 per cent — producing around £2 million a year in increased levy payments for the sport.

The betting duty cut will be at the top of the BHB's agenda when the board meets tomorrow and it is highly likely that Sir John Sparrow, the chairman of the Levy Board, will address the issue when he speaks at the Gimcrack dinner at York racecourse tomorrow evening.

Significantly, ministers are insisting agreement between racing and the betting industry must be reached by Christmas or, at the latest, in the first few days of 1996, which should help to concentrate minds.

One mind which lacked its usual powers of concentration on Saturday was that of Edward Gillespie, managing director and, more importantly, acting clerk of the course at Cheltenham. His failure to realise a heavy overnight frost might cause cancellation of racing and, worse still, his reluctance to use breakfast-time television and radio programmes to alert spectators to the possibility, led to 10,000 people making a wasted journey to Prestbury Park. The Jockey Club is to seek a report into the belated abandonment which did little for racing's goodwill and understandably prompted some angry scenes at Cheltenham.

Gillespie has, at least, wasted no time in announcing measures to refund racegoers and make some compensation to owners. "All the paying customers need to do is send their badge or ticket receipt to Cheltenham racecourse and they will be refunded in full," he said. "The owners of the 46 runners will be credited with £200 through Weatherbys as a contribution to travelling expenses."

In fairness to Gillespie, he was the first to admit he had got things wrong. While that will be of little consolation to those who made the journey to Cheltenham, his unusually slipshod conduct hardly amounts to the most heinous of offences.

RICHARD EVANS

Nap: Northern Saddler
(2.15 Newton Abbot)
Next best: Ottowa
(2.45 Newton Abbot)

Britain lagging in invitation stakes

Gladiateur was the first: came across the Channel by packet boat in 1865 and won the Derby at Epsom; 16 years later *Iroquois* was shipped over from the United States and did the same. Fred Archer rode the American-bred so the home team retained some glory. The first horse flown to England was Marcel Boussac's Djelal, winner of the Diadem Stakes at Ascot in 1947.

Horse transport by air has become commonplace. The heavens are replete with quadrupeds jetting to distant engagements in search of rich pickings, and problems such as quarantine and health regulations are largely overcome; today's thoroughbred racehorse is the most medically cosseted being in the world.

Desmond Leaden, a vet from Ireland, has done valuable work in the niche market of equestrian air travel — the first person to put statistics to something which was previously guesswork. Prior to his research Barry Hills believed

CLEMENT FREUD



Racing commentary

in flying on Friday, racing on Saturday and getting the beast home for Sunday lunch, while connections of Dancing Brave allowed ten days each side for acclimatisation on long-haul lights.

Leaden decreed that four days was about right, that in-flight weight loss could be countered by intravenous drip before and after journeys; he gave guidance to pilots on avoidance of turbulence and gradual landings, trained professional flying grooms to accompany horses and see to their food and drink, in-flight comfort, loading and off-loading. Airborne horses seem to have a better time, certainly more room, than people though to date there has been no report of an equestrian mile-high club.

The mechanics of staging a successful international event, such as Hong Kong's eighth running of The Cup, requires commercial as well as veterinary know-how. Success here was assured with the presence of horses from both Americas, France, Ireland, England, Australasia and Japan.

What owner of a valuable racehorse is going to commit it to flying to the other end of the world when there is good sport at home? The answer is: the owner who is invited to bring his wife, and his trainer and his wife, and his jockey and his wife; all of whom are sent club class tickets, given free accommodation and food in a prestigious hotel with presents and parties and outings leading up to the race day.

Then there is a six-figure first prize with good money down to seventh place. And the groom's quarters are brilliant, for the goodwill of the groom is crucial to the wellbeing of racing.

Over the last decade international horseracing has been like the Formula One motor racing series with the same beasts jetting around the world, taking on each other in the last quarter of the year. The hosts' reasons are diverse: The Japan Cup (last week, Tokyo, attendance 187,000) is funded by the Pari-Mutuel, encouraged by the Japanese Foreign Office to develop world relations. Melbourne hates being outperformed by the Japanese. Hong Kong's motive for participation is probably to confront the People's Liberation Army in 1997 with an historic and prestigious status quo.

The United States wants to reverse the drift from racetracks by rivalling the World Series and Superbowl with the Breeders' Cup. France's Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe relies on sponsorship but succeeds because of its historic past.

Dubai, already a great tourist attraction, holds its first International next March wanting to do better than its Asian rivals. Brazil intends to take money from its lottery and try to dominate horseracing.

The events and the money there to be won are incentives to keep horses in training rather than pack them off to stud as soon as they have triumphed in a group race. Changing the distance from the standard 1½ miles is also helpful: the Melbourne Cup is over two miles, while the Arlington Million and Dubai International are over ten furlongs.

It will not stop there. Leaden has given racing the scientific data to make it work, to create equine world champions just as there are champions in golf, tennis, boxing and athletics.

And what are we doing in England? Moaning that an invitation international event would cost too much and asking who will pay for it. Nick Clarke of the International Racing Bureau reckons it would cost about £5 million ... the price of a goodish footballer. The Tote has not got it. Bookmakers won't admit to having it and our Government, which takes out so much in betting tax, only puts back one per cent. The Japanese refund 15 per cent.

Perhaps Ladbrokes, Hills and Coral should take another look: For yesterday's Hong Kong Cup the nine tipsters of the *South China Morning Post*'s racing supplement each tipped three horses in the 12-horse field ... and not one of them found the first, second or third, who came respectively from Japan, America and just behind the track at Sha Tin. Five million pounds would be a small price for a bookmaker to pay for such a result.



Partipral, right, denies the Clive Brittain-trained Needle Gun in the Hong Kong International Vase at Sha Tin yesterday. The British challengers had less to celebrate in the Hong Kong Bowl, with Branston Abby tenth, Young Ern twelfth and Cool Jazz last. Godolphin's Triarius was tenth in the Hong Kong International Cup

One Man on course for King George

GORDON RICHARDS, the Greystoke trainer, yesterday reported his impressive Haydock Park winner, One Man, in good form after Saturday's exertions.

Richards said: "He is on course for the King George VI Tripleprint Chase at Kempton Park on Boxing Day. If he keeps fit Tony Dobbin will more than likely ride."

Dobbin, the stable jockey, has not been able to ride recently because of injury, but has been riding out at Greystoke and will continue to do so before he resumes on the track, possibly next weekend.

Dobbin rode One Man at Kempton last season in the Racing Post Handicap Chase in February, when the grey took a crashing fall at the twelfth when travelling well. Richards is not concerned about a repeat of that blunder, with the gelding's confidence on a high after an exhibition round of jumping over Haydock's stiff fences. .

Ironically it was the only fence that Mark Dwyer, deputising for Dobbin, had to put the horse right at in an otherwise flawless round. Dwyer said: "On that sort of ground this horse is as good as any I've ridden although whether he would be as effective on heavy going remains to be seen."

Ladbrokes was equally impressed, making One Man 5-2 favourite for the King George, from 4-1. The company then bets: 3-1 Barton Bank, Merry Gale, 6-1 Dublin Flyer, 10-1 Algan, Val D'Alene, 16-1 others.

NEWTON ABBOT

THUNDERER

12.45 Seasonal Splendour
2.15 Zajira
2.45 TIME FOR A FLUTTER (nap)
1.15 Court Melody
3.15 Smiling Chief
1.45 Dress Dance
3.45 Arctic Kinsman

The Times Private Handicapper's top rating:
3.15 **CERTAIN ANGLE.**

GOING: SOFT (HEAVY IN PLACES) SIS

12.45 PRE-CHRISTMAS MAIDEN HURDLE
(£2,906: 2m 1f) (16 runners)

101		035	ALLOW 18 (Mrs M Llewellyn) B Llewellyn 4-11-5	D Matthews (5)	77
102		6-	ARABOYBILL 486 (B) (N Gay & B Barry) R Simpson 4-11-5	D Gallagher	–
103		P	BORJITO 12 (B) (Mrs A Malde) M Pipe 4-11-5	Jamie Evans	–
104		/21F-	CHILDHAY CHOCOLATE 2899 (S) (T Frost) P Nicholls 7-11-5	M A Fitzgerald	–
105		4034-B2	CRANE HILL 9 (B) (R Hamilton) P Hobbs 5-11-5	C Maude	93
106		4-	HOLDMCLOSE 201 (Mrs C Lore) R Frost 5-11-5	J Frost	–
107		3135-	JULTARA 284 (S) (R Baby) J Edwards 6-11-5	R Johnson (3)	80
108		U232-2	MAJBOOR YAROOZ 184 (BF) (Mrs J Bodycote) J Bosley 5-11-5	M Bosley	97
109		F	TRISQUARE 31 (E Benfield) K Bailey 4-11-5	J A McCarthy	83
110		0-6	ZITAS SON 32 (R Heathman Ltd) C Popham 6-11-5	T Dascombe (5)	–
111		42	COME DANCE WITH ME 14 (Mrs G Roberts) R Frost 5-11-0	B Powell	88
112			MISS NORWAIT 441F (R Short) N Thomson 5-11-0	P McLoughlin	–
113		00010-3	MYBLACKTHORN 14 (S) (Mrs M Coburn) P Nicholls 5-11-0	A P McCoy	91
114		0-00	PARTY RECLAIM 14 (Mrs S Walters) C James 6-11-0	I Lawrance	–
115		P-	PRIDE OF BRITAIN 2915 (Pride Di Britain) L Cottrell 6-11-0	Mr L Jefford	–
116		33-	SEASONAL SPLENDOUR 53F (D Johnson) M Pipe 5-11-0	D Bridgwater	80

BETTING: 5-2 Come Hell, 11-4 Seasonal Splendour, 4-1 Trisquare, Majboor Yaboz, 12-1 Myblackthorn, Childhay Chocolate, 14-1 others.

1994: NO CORRESPONDING RACE

FORM FOCUS

CHILDHAY CHOCOLATE beat Black Joker 5l in 15-runner maiden open at Larkhill (soft) on penultimate start. CRANE HILL 2½l 2nd of 15 to Buckhouse Boy in novice hurdle at Towcester (2m 5l, soft) HOLDMCLOSE 24l 4th of 18 to Best Of Friends in National Hunt Flat race at Worcester (2m, good) JULTARA 21¼l 5th of 15 to Deering Bridge in novice hurdle at Ludlow (2m 5l 110yd, soft).

MAJBOOR YAROOZ 3l 2nd of 15 to Mr Devious in novice hurdle at Worcester (2m, good to firm). COME DANCE WITH ME 2½l 2nd of 21 to Wren Warbler in novice hurdle at Worcester (2m, soft) with MY BLACKTHORN 9l 3rd. SEASONAL SPLENDOUR 11 3rd of 18 to Winn's Pride in maiden hurdle at Ludlow (2m, good to soft)
Selection: CRANE HILL

1.15 LES SEWARD MEMORIAL TROPHY NOVICES CHASE
(£3,599: 3m 2f 110yd) (13 runners)

201		PP-12P1	COURT MELODY 14 (B,G,S) (M Coburn) P Nicholls 7-11-6	A P McCoy	94
202		5/230-31	GOOD INSIGHT 45 (G,S) (T Neill) C Brooks 7-11-6	G Bradley	88
203		SPY	BALLYDOUGAN 707 (Mrs R Mathew) P Nicholls 7-11-0	M A Fitzgerald	–
204		P30-4FF	BETTER BYTHE GLASS 12 (S) (Bloodstock Synd) N Twiston-Davies 6-11-0	C Llewellyn	–
205		P6-	BUZZ O'THE GROVE 2694 (S) (Mrs C Handel) Mrs C Handel 5-11-0	Mr R Payne	76
206		10S0/06-	CAPTAIN DOLFORD 364 (S) (R Brankworth) D Gandolfo 8-11-0	D Leahy	80
207		13-U	MERLIN'S LAD 6 (S) (H Mercer-Bennett) J Edwards 6-11-0	R Johnson (3)	–
208		1-	SUPERIOR RISK 236 (S) (D Mercer) M Pipe 6-11-0	D Bridgwater	–
209			THEFOURTHMUSKATEER (D & J Newell) S Earle 6-11-0	C Maude	–
210		PP341P-	BOURNEL 257 (S) (N Bowdan) C Barwell 7-10-9	Mr R White (7)	–
211		0618/P0-	DAVES DELIGHT 319 (S) (Miss S Waterman 9-10-9	Mr G Sheridan (7)	–
212		P0P0/0-P	MAGGIE TEE 25 (R Scorgie) N Mitchell 7-10-9	L Harvey	–
213		F22P-PP	SEASAMACAMILE 11 (S) (M Wez) R Buckler 8-10-9	B Powell	94

BETTING: 3-1 Superior Risk, 7-2 Court Melody, 4-1 Good Insight, 9-2 Better Bythe Glass, 8-1 Merlin's Lad, 16-1 Ballydougan, 20-1 Captain Dolford, 25-1 others.

1994: GREENHIL TARE AWAY 6-10-12 Peter Hobbs (5-4 fav) P Hobbs 6 ran

FORM FOCUS

COURT MELODY beat Waterford Castle 4l in 12-runner handicap chase at Worcester (2m 7f, soft) GOOD INSIGHT beat Malaw 15l in 14-runner handicap chase at Bangor (3m 110yd, good) BETTER BYTHE GLASS fell in two chases this season, best effort over hurdles when 17l 4th of 8 to Miki Dee in conditional jockeys handicap at Bangor (2m 4f, good) MERLIN'S LAD 7l 3rd of 9 to On Alert in confined maiden at Bishops Court (good) on penultimate start, April 1995. SUPERIOR RISK beat Carefornelknow 8l in 16-runner National Hunt Flat race at Limerick (2m 4f, good) BOURNEL beat Third Schedule head in 7-runner novices handicap hurdle here (2m 6f, heavy) on penultimate start.
Selection: COURT MELODY

Blinkered first time

NEWTON ABBOT: 12.45 Araboybill. 3.15 Certain Angle

1.45 HORSERACE BETTING LEVY BOARD HANDICAP HURDLE
(£2,211: 2m 1f) (7 runners)

301		432130	CHICKABIDDY 18 (CD,F,S) (G Edwards) G Edwards 7-12-0	M A Fitzgerald	92
302		112F63	FERRUFINO 10 (CD,F) (P Rich) P Rich 7-11-8	Mr M Daly (7)	97
303		6422-04	DRESS DANCE 10 (Mrs J Powell) N Mitchell 5-11-8	Sophie Mitchell (5)	89
304		14/0R-40	MUSTAHIL 10 (B,D,F) (Unity Farm) R Hodges 6-10-13	T Dascombe (5)	98
305		1-500	NEVEROLD 11 (S) (T Segrue) M Ahern 5-10-4	M Ahern	–
306		404306/	KOA 570 (G) (M Arnold) N Twiston-Davies 5-10-2	C Llewellyn	–
307		436104/	MISS SOUTER 559 (F) (Secret Partners) H Howe 6-10-0	D Bridgwater	–

Long handicap: Miss Souter 9-12

BETTING: 9-4 Chickabiddy, 7-2 Ferrufino, 4-1 Dress Dance, 9-2 Koa, 10-1 Neverold, Mustahil, 20-1 Miss Souter

1994: AAL 8L AAL 7-11-7 G Tormey (2-1 fav) P Hobbs 9 ran

FORM FOCUS

CHICKABIDDY best effort this season, beat Koo's Promise 1l in 9-runner handicap hurdle at Exeter (2m 3f, good to firm) FERRUFINO 26½l 3rd of 15 to Spring Saint in handicap hurdle at Exeter (3m 2f, good to soft), with MUSTAHIL (3lb better off) 14½l 9th DRESS DANCE 17l 4th of 10 to Highdown Cavalier in conditional jockeys handicap hurdle at Exeter (2m 2f, good to soft) MUSTAHIL 15½l 4th of 6 to Lightening Lad in handicap hurdle at Wincanton (2m, good) on penultimate start. NEVEROLD 104l 9th of 14 to Derzee in handicap hurdle at Windsor (2m 4f, good to soft) KOA 6l and short-head 3rd of 15 to Sophism in novices selling hurdle at Exeter (2m 2f, good to firm), April 1994. MISS SOUTER 11l 4th of to Referral Fee in novices handicap hurdle at Worcester (2m 5l 110yd, firm), May 1994
Selection: DRESS DANCE

2.15 BEST IN THE WEST HANDICAP CHASE (£4,395: 2m 110yd) (5 runners)

401		2335-11	NORTHERN SADDLER 14 (CD,F,S,S) (R Evans) R Hodges, 8-12-0	M A Fitzgerald	94
402		11S-1F4	JAMES THE FIRST 14 (CD,F,G,S) (B Stanman) P Nicholls 7-11-7	A P McCoy	99
403		31334/5-	ITS NEARLY TIME 384 (D,G,S) Miss H Knight 12-11-5	Miss J Brackenbury (7)	–
404		/54U04-	TREVAYLOR 254 (CD,G,S) (G Nore) P Hobbs 11-11-3	G McCourt	–
405		121UF1	ZAJIRA 11 (D,F,G,S) (F Bush) P Eccles, 5-10-9	R Johnson (3)	95

BETTING: 11-8 Northern Saddler, 2-1 Zajira, 5-1 James The First, 10-1 Trevaylor, 12-1 Its Nearly Time.

1994: ELITE REG 5-12-0 R Dunwoody (2-1 jt-fav) M Pipe 9 ran

FORM FOCUS

NORTHERN SADDLER beat Barns Boy 2l in 5-runner handicap chase at Worcester (2m, soft). JAMES THE FIRST best effort this season, beat Circulation 9l in 4-runner handicap chase at Bangor (2m 1½l, good to soft), ITS NEARLY TIME 80l 5th of 6 to Coulton in handicap chase at Stratford (2m 1l 110yd, good to soft) TREVAYLOR 24l 4th of 7 to Pontypyscarn in handicap chase over course and distance (good to soft) ZAJIRA beat Sophie May 5l in 7-runner handicap hurdle at Windsor (2m, good to soft).
Selection: NORTHERN SADDLER

2.45 BULPIN CHALLENGE CUP HANDICAP HURDLE
(Amateurs: £2,385: 2m 6f) (15 runners)

501		135-223	OTTOWA 9 (D,G,S) (P Barber) P Nicholls 5-12-0	R White (7)	89
502		225-321	TIME FOR A FLUTTER 14 (G,S) (Miss N Carroll) C James 6-11-0	E James (7)	97
503		253-546	THE MINDER 9 (S) (G Edwards) G Edwards 8-10-13	Miss P James (5)	93
504		2323-6P	LYING EYES 19 (BF,S) (A Holbrook) W G M Turner 4-10-11	M Daly (7)	97
505		39032-3	ST VILLE 13 (D,G,S) (Melplash Racing) R Buckler 9-10-9	B Dixon (7)	90
506		02226-0	JUST ONE CANALETTO 185 (S) N Twiston-Davies 7-10-8	M Rimell (5)	95
507		323/3130-	IT'S NOT MY FAULT 284 (D,G,S) (P Jones) P Jones 7-10-2	J Culloty (7)	95
508		52111-U	GLEN MIRAGE 11 (C,F,S) (J Coombe) M Coombe 10-10-2	Miss M Coombe (7)	95
509		05-1345	AMBER VALLEY 9 (Berkshire Conveyancing) D Williams 4-10-1	K Eadie (7)	88
510		0021?1P	MORNING BLUSH 27 (D,F,S) (Rogerons Partners) M Pipe 5-10-1	L Jefford (7)	93
511		2/420-50	NINE O THREE 16 (S) (Biddelford Tool Ltd) N Aylliffe 6-10-0	M Fitzgerald (7)	94
512		0050-01	CASSIO'S BOY 19 (S) (Lyonshall Racing) R Ecklay 4-10-0	Miss E J Jones (7)	89
513		20PP/P-0	MONTAGNARD 46 (D,G,S) (N Gill) M Bradstock 11-10-0	R Thornton (7)	–
514		650330-	SIR CRUSTY 212 (F,G,S) (Miss B Small) C Jones 13-10-0	Miss B Small (7)	85
515		054466	MASCALLS LADY 26 (Mrs M Cox) N Thomson 10-10-0	S Davis (7)	–

Long handicap: Nine O Three 9-11, Cassio's Boy 9-10, Montagnard 9-8, Sir Crusty 9-0, Mascalls Lady 7-6

BETTING: 4-1 Ottowa, 9-2 Time For A Flutter, 7-1 Morning Blush, 8-1 St Ville, Amber Valley, 10-1 Just One Canaletto, The Minder, 12-1 others.

1994: DAMIER BLANC 5-10-5 M Rimell (9-4) M Pipe 9 ran

FORM FOCUS

OTTOWA 15½l 3rd of 13 to Bells Life in handicap hurdle at Chepstow (2m 4½l, soft) with THE MINDER (10lb better off) 25½l 5th TIME FOR A FLUTTER beat Sesame Seed 2½l in handicap hurdle at Worcester (2m 4l, soft). ST VILLE neck and 9l 3rd to Danny King in conditional jockeys handicap hurdle at Fontwell (2m 5l, soft). AMBER VALLEY 16l 4th of 7 to Nairn in handicap hurdle at Leicester (2m, good) on penultimate start. MORNING BLUSH beat Four Leader 1½l in novice hurdle at Exeter (2m 5l, good to firm).
Selection: TIME FOR A FLUTTER (nap)

LEADERS OVER THE JUMPS

TRAINERS

	1st	2nd	3rd	Runs	Level stakes
M Pipe	79	47	30	1	-4.53
P Hobbs	45	24	20	3	+20.95
N Twiston-Davies	39	29	18	6	-9.19
Mrs M Revelley	38	24	18	2	-48.12
G Richards	36	21	7	1	+32.05

JOCKEYS

	1st	2nd	3rd	Losing rides	Level stakes
A P McCoy	85	58	44	1	+46.50
D Bridgwater	66	46	30	0	-20.31
P Niven	42	27	19	5	-33.67
R Dunwoody	39	28	35	0	-40.46
A Dobbin	31	19	16	1	+27.41

GUIDE TO OUR IN-LINE RACECARD

101 113143 GOOD TIMES 13 (BF,F,G,S) (Mrs D Robinson) B Hall 12-0 B West (7) 88

Racecard number Six-figure form (F — fell P — pulled up U — unseated rider B — brought down S — slipped up. R — refused. D — disqualified). Horse's name Days since last outing. F II fast. (B — blinkers V — visor. H — hood. E — Eyeshield. C — course winner. D — distance winner CD — course and distance winner BF — beaten favourite in latest race). Going on which horse has won (F — firm, good to firm, hard G — good. S — soft, good to soft, heavy). Owner in brackets. Trainer Age and weight. Rider plus any allowance The Times Private Handicapper's rating.

3.15 TOM HOLT AND REALITY HANDICAP CHASE
(£2,873: 2m 5l 110yd) (10 runners)

601		F/0UP/R	MAPLE DANCER 19 (F,G) (D Barons) D Barons 9-12-0	Mr G Sheridan (7)	–
602		221PP4-	BENJAMIN LANCASTER 254 (CD,G,S) (M Griffin) M Griffin 11-11-10	D Gallagher	89
603		U-F1U31	CERTAIN ANGLE 4 (B,F,G,S) (Pyform Synd) P Hobbs 6-11-5 (7ex)	C Maude	99
604		06230F	ILEWIN 6 (F,G,S) (Middle Packaging) M Ahern 8-11-2	M Ahern	92
605		35-11F	BRAMBLEHILL BUCK 12 (CD,S) (P Barber) P Nicholls 6-11-0	A P McCoy	95
606		21-1354	CLEAR IDEA 29 (CD,F,G) (AEC Electric Fencing) R Frost 7-10-11	J Frost	95
607		2410-P4	EVANGELICA 30 (S) (M Pipe Racing) M Pipe 5-10-6	D Bridgwater	–
608		2P2/2PP-	SILVER AGE 381 (G) (Mrs S Bird) J Bosley 9-10-3	R Farrant	92
609		5163/24	SMILING CHIEF 18 (S) (Mrs E Tucker) R Hodges 7-10-0	T Dascombe (5)	95
610		P52-656	ALLO GEORGE 16 (C,S,S) (Lavic Medical Systems) A Newcombe 9-10-0	A Thornton	98

BETTING: 2-1 Bramblehill Buck, 5-2 Certain Angle, 5-1 Evangelica, 8-1 Clear Idea, 8-1 Ilewin, 12-1 Smiling Chief, 16-1 Benjamin Lancaster, 20-1 others

1994: ENCORE UN PEU 7-11-6 R Dunwoody (Evens fav) M Pipe 5 ran

FORM FOCUS

BENJAMIN LANCASTER 7½l 4th of 7 to Canoscan in handicap chase here (2m 5l, good) CERTAIN ANGLE beat Scotton 3l in 11-runner handicap chase at Taunton (3m, good). ILEWIN best recent effort when 16l 3rd of 8 to Lodestone Lad in handicap chase at Fakenham (2m 5f 110yd, good) BRAMBLEHILL BUCK completed double, beat SMILING CHIEF (5lb better off) 5l in 7-runner novices handicap chase over course and distance (soft) with CERTAIN ANGLE (2lb worse off) unseated rider 2nd SILVER AGE best effort last season when 20l 2nd of 8 to Unguided Missile in best recent effort when 16l 3rd of 8 to Lodestone Lad in handicap chase at Fakenham (2m 5f 110yd, good) BRAMBLEHILL BUCK completed double, beat SMILING CHIEF (5lb better off) 5l in 7-runner novices handicap chase at Haydock (2m 4l, good). SMILING CHIEF 17¾l 4th of 12 to Falmouth Bay in novice chase at Taunton (2m 3f, good).
Selection: BRAMBLEHILL BUCK

3.45 WILLIAM HILL GOLDEN OLDIES STAKES
(Invitation flat race. £1,516: 2m 1f) (9 runners)

1		53311-5	IL BAMBINO 19 (S) (H Manners) H Manners 7-12-4	A Garvey	–
2			MHEANMETOO 264F (W Clifford) D Williams, 4-12-4	R Beggan	–
3		62035-0	MY SWAN SONG 31 (F,G) (B McGowan) J Smith 10-12-4	P Smith	–
4		12/530-	SOHRAB 275 (S) (Mrs J Richards) M Pipe 7-12-4	J King	–
5		145-R2-	AAL EL AAL 22d (S,S) (Sir Horse Power) P Hobbs 8-12-0	Philip Hobbs	–
6		61431/2-	ARCTIC KINSMAN 307 (G,S) N Twiston-Davies, 7-12-0	Peter Scudamore	–
7		R	GAGOOS BABY 40 (M Lethbridge) B Millman 5-12-0	R Millman	–
8		05136-P	PREROGATIVE 183 (V,G,S) (D Johnson) M Pipe 5-12-0	M Gallimore	–
9			SCENT OF POWER 188F (G Gregory) N Babbage 5-12-0	M Caswell	–

BETTING: 3-1 Arctic Kinsman, 7-2 Sohrab 4-1 Prerogative, Aal El Aal, 6-1 My Swan Song, 10-1 Gagoos Baby, 14-1 Il Bambino, 16-1 others.

1994: NO CORRESPONDING RACE

FORM FOCUS

IL BAMBINO completed double, beat Hanscthetaal 11½l in 18-runner selling hurdle at Chepstow (2m 110yd, good to soft) on penultimate start, March 1995. SOHRAB head and 4l 3rd of 4 to Zealous Kitten in handicap hurdle at Sandown (3m 110yd, heavy) on penultimate start. AAL EL AAL 2½l 2nd of 11 to Danny Post in handicap hurdle at Uttoxeter (2m, good to firm). ARCTIC KINSMAN very useful hurdler, 11l 2nd of 5 to Spring Marathon in conditions event at Newbury (2m 5f, heavy) when last seen out.
Selection: ARCTIC KINSMAN

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS	Wins	Runs	%
C Brooks	7	20	35.0
P Hobbs	41	133	30.8
M Pipe	91	317	28.7
J Edwards	7	27	25.9
P Nicholls	21	87	24.1
N Twiston-Davies	10	50	20.0

JOCKEYS	Winners	Rides	%
G Bradley	15	48	31.3
R Dunwoody	51	172	29.7
C Tormey	4	15	26.7
G McCourt	12	49	24.5
D Bridgwater	18	74	24.3
C Llewellyn	12	69	17.4

Frost claims Warwick meeting

THE meeting at Warwick today has been abandoned because of frost. Peter McNeile, the clerk of the course, said yesterday: "There is still frost in the ground and there are no prospects of racing. The temperature has barely got above freezing and we have a number of trouble spots which gave us no hope, especially with such an early start tomorrow."

SATURDAY'S RESULTS

Haydock Park

Going: good

12.30 (2m hdle) 1, Crown Equerry (J F Titley, 7-1); 2, Divertimento (7-4 fav), 3, Indolence (14-1). 14 ran. 5l, 2½l. A Turnell Tote: £7.70: £2.60, £1.20, £3.30 DF: £14.50 Trio. £39.50 CSF: £20.32.

1.00 (2m ch) 1, Easthorpe (J F Titley, 8-13 fav); 2, Political Tower (5-2); 3, Circulation (40-1). 4 ran. 11l, 3½l. Miss H Knight. Tote. £1.50. DF: £1.90. CSF. £2.32.

1.30 (2m 4l hdle) 1, Home Counties (D J Moffatt, 4-1). 2, Pridwell (4-1), 3, Sparky Gayle (2-1 fav) 7 ran. Hd, 1½l. D Moffatt. Tote: £3.90; £2.00, £2.80. DF. £6.00 CSF: £18.80.

2.00 (3m ch) 1, One Man (M Dwyer. 1-3 fav); 2, Monsieur Le Cure (6-1), 3, Garrison Savannah (7-1). 5 ran. NR: Black Humour. 11l, 30l. G Richards Tote: £1.50; £1.40, £1.30 DF. £2.50. CSF £3.21.

2.30 (2m 7f 110yd hdle) 1, Great Easeby (R McGrath, 7-1); 2, Landed Gentry (14-1); 3, Bang In Trouble (12-1) Aljadeer 5-2 fav. 14 ran 3½l, 5l. W Storey Tote. £7.10; £2.50. £4.80, £5.20 DF: £44.00. Trio: £179.50 CSF: £97.99 Tricast: £1,079.84.

3.00 (2m hdle) 1, Kaltak (F Leahy, 11-8 fav), 2, Anlace (2-1), 3, Grandsman (4-1). 5 ran NR Ryan Giggs. 6l, 1¼l. J Carr Tote: £2.00, £1.30, £1.40 DF £1.80 CSF: £4.61

3.30 (2m hdle) 1, Mack The Knife (D Bridgwater, 8-11 fav); 2, Master Beveled (2-1); 3, Floating Line (10-1). 13 ran 5l, 2l. M Pipe Tote: £1.90; £1.30, £1.50, £2.40 DF: £2.10 Trio. £5.30 CSF: £3.19.

Placepot: £22.50.

Quadpot: £9.30.

Doncaster

Going: good, good to firm in places

12.10 (2m 110yd ch) 1, General Command (P Carberry, 15-8 fav), 2, Lochinagain (5-2), 3, Destiny Calls (2-1). 5 ran. 1¼l, 10l G Richards Tote. £2.50; £1.80, £1.60. DF. £3.60 CSF: £6.48.

12.40 (2m 4l hdle) 1, Sesame Seed (T Kent, 9-2), 2, Top Cees (11-8 fav); 3, Cuthroat Kid (8-1). 8 ran. NR: How's It Goin. 4l, 8l. Mrs J Cecil. Tote: £5.80; £1.30, £1.40, £1.90 DF. £5.40. Trio: £7.30 CSF: £11.44 Tricast: £45.70

1.15 (2m 110yd hdle) 1, Solomon's Dancer (D Byrne, 11-8 fav), 2, Hazard A Guess (5-2); 3, Lot's Get Lost (5-1). 12 ran 31½l, 12l W Haigh Tote £2.80, £1.30, £1.90, £1.90. DF: £5.60 Trio £7.00 CSF: £8.76

1.45 (3m 2l ch) 1, Scotton Banks (L Wyer, 11-10 fav), 2, Cogent (5-1). 3, Black Humour (7-4) 4 ran NR: Cokenny Boy. 7l, 5l M H Easterby Tote. £1.90, £1.80, DF: £5.50 CSF £6.49.

2.20 (2m 110yd hdle) 1, Thornton Gate (L Wyer, 2-1), 2, Star Rage (Evens fav); 3, Stompin (4-1) 4 ran. 3l, 1l M H Easterby. Tote: £2.50 DF: £1.60. CSF £4.34

2.55 (2m 3f 110yd ch) 1, Magellan Bay (R Farrant, 8-1); 2, Random Harvest (4-5 fav), 3, Spearhead Again (100-30). 8 ran. NR: Storming Run. 4l, 12l Mrs J Pitman. Tote. £6.70; £1.60, £1.20, £1.70 DF. £5.30 Trio. £5.40 CSF: £15.85

3.30 (2m 110yd flat) 1, John Drumm (Mr P Scott, 9-1), 2, Bold Action (15-2); 3, Hoh Music (9-2 jt-fav). Galen 9-2 jt-fav. 13 ran. 1¼l, 1¼l. P Webber Tote: £30.60; £4.60, £4.80, £2.30 DF: £207.90 Trio: £295.00 CSF: £82.16

Placepot: £9.50.

Quadpot: £3.80.

Wolverhampton

Going: standard

7.00 (1m 100yd) 1, Kissing Gate (S Sanders, 11-8 fav); 2, Red Rusty (25-1); 3, Conquistajade (6-1) 13 ran. NK, 5l. R Charlton. Tote: £2.60; £1.10, £4.70, £3.30 DF: £18.70. Trio: £28.20

FOR THE RECORD

ATHLETICS

ESTORIL, Portugal: IAAF World Cross Country Challenge: Men: 10.8km: 1, S Konaris (Ken) 33min 17sec; 2, H Jilar (Eth) 33:22; 3, P Mocsima (Ken) 33:44; 4, K Chemuiyot (Ken) 33:48; 5, S Rono (Ken) 33:53 **Women: 5.4km:** 1, R Cheruiyot (Ken) 18min 42sec; 2, W Getie (Eth) 18:54; 3 J Ngotho (Ken) 18:56; 4, S Staduyepne (Lat) 19:16; 5, A Zhityayevo (Russ) 19:20

CROSS COUNTRY: County championships: Avon (Glastonbury): Men: 8km: 1, J Loader (Bristol Univ) 29min 16sec; 2, J Emery (Westbury) 29:43; 3, S Risa (Bristol AC) 29:46 **Teams:** 1, Westbury 52pts; 2, Bristol 76; 3, Great Western Runners 182. **Women: 5km:** 1, N Brookland (Westbury) 20:09; 2, L Field (Bristol) 20:45; 3 V McConnel (Nailsea) 20:49. **Teams:** 1, Bristol 14, 2, City of Bath 23, 3, Great Western Runners 36. **Kent (Maidenhead). Men: 12km:** 1, J Burke (London Irish) 39:43; 2, T Hyde (Windsor, Slough and Eton) 40:08, 3, J Hyde (Windsor, Slough and Eton) 40:58 **Teams:** 1, Bracknell 63, 2, Windsor, Slough and Eton 75, 3, Newbury 93 **Buckinghamshire** (Milton Keynes): **Men: 11km:** 1, C Addison (Vale of Aylesbury) 35:59; 2, A Magnall (Vale of Aylesbury) 36:57; 3, G Dell (Vale of Aylesbury) 37:39 **Teams:** 1, Vale of Aylesbury 40, 2, Milton Keynes 95, 3, Wycombe Phoenix 126. **Women: 6km:** 1, R Dubl (Milton Keynes) 25:35; 2, S Winterburn (Chiltern and Thatford) 25:53; 3, L Dewhurst (Milton Keynes) 26:13 **Teams:** 1, Milton Keynes 10; 2, Wycombe Phoenix 25, 3, Bearbrook Joggers 41 **Cornwall (Redruth): Men: 9.8km:** 1, N Caddy (Newquay and Par) 31:47; 2, M King (Cornwall AC) 32:58, 3, K O'Connor (Cornwall AC) 33:33 **Teams:** 1, Newquay and Par 16pts, 2, Cornwall AC 29, Wormest 5.1km: 1 M Sutton (Westbury) 19:42; 2, M Wooldridge (Bristol) 21:04; 3, J Lean (Newquay and Par) 21:52 **Team:** Cornwall AC 39 **Cumbria (Kendal): Men: 10km:** 1, P Taylor (Border) 34:16; 2, I Postlethwaite (Barrow and Furness Striders) 35:35, 3, C Roberts (Kendal) 36:42. **Team:** Kendal 58 **Women: 6km:** 1, N Tait (Windsor, Slough and Eton) 22:36; 2, M MacKenzie (Border) 24:31; 3, C Young (Border) 24:41 **Team:** Kendal 17 **Derbyshire (Derby). Men: 10km:** 1, K Lamb (Tipton, holder) 33:43; 2, M Lobb (Derby and County) 32:51; 3, P Rowland (Omega) 33:44. **Teams:** 1, Derby and County 73; 2, Chesapeake 159, 3, Ripley Running Club 164. **Veteran:** T Bishop (Omega) 35:57 **Team:** Ilkeston 72 **Women:** 1, E Fee (Birchfield) 20:30, 2, S Bull (Derby Ladies) 20:47; 3, W Farrow (Derby Ladies) 20:48 **Team:** Derby Ladies 27 **Dorset Essex (Woodford): Men: 7.5 miles:** 1, E Martin (Basildon, holder) 37:50, 2, D Laughlin (Chelmsford) 38:10, 3, J Gentry (Newham and Essex Beagles) 38:44 **Teams:** 1, Chelmsford 59; 2, Basildon 107, 3, Woodford Green 155 **Women: 5 miles:** 1, J Holden (Shaftesbury Barnet) 29:58; 2, D Sullivan (Havering Mayesbrook) 30:03, 3, S Bridger (Thurrock) 30:46 **Teams:** 1, Havering Mayesbrook 30; 2, Colchester 73; 3, Woodford Green 90 **Hertfordshire (St Albans): Men: 10km:** 1, P Sibbett (North Herts Road Runners) 33:04; 2, T Osborne (Verlea) 33:23, 3, M Smith (Haringey) 33:31 **Teams:** 1, North Herts Road Runners 87, 2, Watford 142, 3, Verlea 159 **Women 4km** 1, D Sanderson (Watford) 16:06, 2, M Ayling (Parkside Harriers) 16:29, 3, K Black (Royston) 16:35. **Team:** St Albans Striders 29 **Kent (Maidstone). Men: 12km:** 1, S Borden (GEC Anonicol) 38:00, 2, B Royden (Medway) 38:37, 3, M Stenlie (Blackheath) 39:41 **Teams:** 1, Blackheath 48; 2, GEC Avionics 78, 3, Medway 126 **Women: 6.1km:** 1, L Watson (GEC Avionics) 22:26, 2, D Percival (Canterbury) 22:32; 3, S Brice (Blackheath) 23:26 **Teams:** 1, Medway 45, 2, Dartford 48; 3, Cambridge Harriers 49 **Lancashire (Blackburn). Men: 7 miles:** T Dickinson (Blackheath) 35:00; 2, M Croasdale (Bingley, holder) 35:51, 3, W Burns (Preston) 36:02 **Teams:** 1, Clayton-le-Moors 84pts, 2, Preston 133, 3, Manx (Isle of Man) 159 **Women: 3.5 miles:** 1, A Parkinson (Hyndburn) 22:20; 2, V Lawrence (Blackpool and Fylde) 22:32, 3, H Pattinson (Preston) 23:04 **Teams:** 1, Blackpool and Fylde 13pts, 2, Clayton-le-Moors 37, 3, North Fylde 40 **Merseyside (Birkenhead): Men: 11.2km:** 1, M McLoughlin (Liverpool Pembroke and Sefton, holder) 33:35; 2, N Vengdasalam (Liverpool Pembroke and Sefton) 33:57; 3, A Woods (Wirral) 34:09 **Teams:** 1, Liverpool Pembroke and Sefton 51pts, 2, Liverpool Harriers 93, 3, Wirral 105. **Women:** 5.6km: 1, J Colleran (Liverpool Harriers) 19:13, 2, P Morgan (Liverpool Harriers) 19:31, 3, J Crompton (Southport Waterloo) 20:21 **Teams:** 1, Liverpool Harriers 20; 2, Liverpool Pembroke and Sefton 48, 3, South Liverpool 61. **Surrey (Frimley) Men: 7.5 miles:** 1, C Sweeney (Belgrave) 37:40, 2, N Hopkins (Bonhill Racers) 38:25, 3, B Winchalls (Dorking and Mole Valley) 39:32 **Teams:** 1, Bonhill Racers 95pts; 2, Herne Hill 150; 3, South London Harriers 173 **Women: 4 miles:** 1, C Hyde (Woking, holder) 24:50, 2, E Beaven (unattached) 25:18; 3, R Disley (Thames Hare and Hounds) 25:35 **Teams:** 1, Herne Hill 36, 2, Woking 37, 3, Dorking and Mole Valley 59 **Sussex Championships (Crawley): Men: 7.5 miles:** 1, S Harris (Phoenix) 40:15, 2, P Davoren (Brighton and Hove) 40:29, 3, K Howard (Phoenix) 40:33 **Teams:** 1, Phoenix 30pts, 2, Brighton and Hove 70; 3, Crawley 168 **Veteran:** P Witcomb (Brighton and Hove) 44:25 **Women: 4 miles:** 1, S Morley (Brighton and Hove) 24:24, 2, J Mitchell (Brighton and Hove) 25:00; 3, C Herbert (Arena 80) 25:25 **Teams:** 1, Brighton and Hove 23, 2, Horsham Blue Star 34; 3, Arena 80 35 **Warwickshire (Solihull) Men: 10km:** 1, S White (Coventry Godiva) 27:22; 2, R Scanlon (Coventry Godiva) 27:57, 3, S Kinson (Leamington) 27:58 **Teams:** 1, Coventry Godiva 23, 2, Birchfield 115, 3, Solihull and Small Heath 152 **Women: 5km:** 1, L Robinson (Coventry Godiva) 21:43, 2, V Stern (Birchfield) 22:36; 3, J Harrison (Leamington) 23:00 **Teams:** 1, Coventry Godiva 16; 2, Solihull and Small Heath 32; 3, Centurion 42.

ROAD RUNNING: Hog's Back (Guildford). 9 miles: Men: 1, S Brace (Bridgend) 44min 49sec; 2, G Davies (Bridgend) 46:09; 3, D Rixon (Bridgend) 47:40 **Teams:** 1, Bridgend 13; 2, Dulwich Runners 120; 3, Stragglers 136. **Veteran:** T Hughes (White Horse) 48:33 **Women:** 1, C Horne (Crawley) 53:16.

BASKETBALL

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION (NBA) New York 101 Atlanta 92; Charlotte 114 Minnesota 108, New Jersey 85 Cleveland 73, Boston 124 Philadelphia 98; Washington 103 Dallas 94, Chicago 118 Milwaukee 106; Miami 84 Phoenix 82; Utah 123 Golden State 109, Seattle 108 Portland 97.

Eastern Conference

Atlantic division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Orlando	16	4	800	—
New York	14	5	737	1½
Miami	12	5	706	2½
New Jersey	9	9	500	6
Boston	8	9	470	6½
Washington	8	10	444	7
Philadelphia	3	15	167	12

Central division

Chicago	16	2	889	—
Atlanta	9	10	473	7½
Charlotte	9	11	450	8
Detroit	8	10	444	8
Indiana	7	9	438	8
Cleveland	8	11	421	8½
Milwaukee	6	11	353	9
Toronto	6	14	300	11

Western Conference

Midwest division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Houston	15	4	789	—
San Antonio	11	5	.688	2½
Utah	13	7	.684	2
Denver	8	9	.471	6
Dallas	6	12	.333	8½
Minnesota	5	12	.294	9
Vancouver	2	17	105	13

Pacific division

Sacramento	12	5	706	—
Seattle	13	6	.684	—
LA Lakers	10	9	526	3
Portland	9	9	.500	3½
Phoenix	8	10	.444	4½
LA Clippers	7	12	.368	6
Golden State	6	13	.316	7

NATIONAL CUP: Fourth round: Birmingham 94 Leicester 72; Derby 65 London 82, Hemel 101 Coventry 73; Crystal Palace 82 Doncaster 81, Ware 71 Thames Valley 103, Worthing 82 Leopards 87

BUDWEISER LEAGUE: Doncaster 73 Newcastle 88, Leopards 82 Thames Valley 76

BOWLS

LIBERTY TROPHY: Group one: Lancashire 123 Northumberland 96, Durham 165 Cumbria 94 **Group two: Derbyshire** 99 Yorkshire 118; Lincolnshire 136 Nottinghamshire 117 **Group three:** Worcestershire 92 Warwickshire 126; Leicestershire 96 Northamptonshire 137 **Group four:** Bedfordshire 119 Suffolk 118, Norfolk 133 Hertfordshire 88 **Group five:** Oxfordshire 114 Gloucestershire 127; Wiltshire 133 Herefordshire 104. **Group six:** Dorset 128 Cornwall 133; Devon 116 Somerset 100 **Group seven:** Sussex 121 Berkshire 121, Hampshire 112 Buckinghamshire 117

Group eight: Kent 103 Essex 121 Surrey 118 Middlesex 129

Scottish Women's championships: Finals: Singles: J Lindores (Tweedbank) 21 K Adams (Auchinloch) 18. **Pairs:** Dundee 26 Arbroath 8. **Triples:** Perth 18 West Lothian 16. **Fours:** Falkirk 21 Ayr 19

BOXING

YORK HALL, Bethnal Green: British and Commonwealth light-welterweight championship (12rds): Paul Ryan (Hackney) bt Ross Hale (Bristol, holder) ko 1st. **World Boxing Council International superbantamweight championship** (12rds): Alfred Kotey (Ghana) bt Freddy Cruz (Dom) pts **Undercard: Heavyweight** (4rds) Danny Williams (Brixton) bt Joe Paladino (Altrincham) rsc 1st, **Middleweight** (4rds) Michael Bowen (West Ham) bt Peter Varnavas (Burnley) ko 3rd, **Welterweight** (Brds): Kevin Lueching (Beckenham) bt Steve Goodwin (Derby) ref 2nd, (4rds) Martin Holgate (Walthamstow) bt Andrew Reed (Potters Bar) rsc 1st

STUTTGART: International Boxing Federation world heavyweight championship: Francois Botha (SA) bt Axel Schulz (Ger) pts **World Boxing Authority supermiddleweight championship** (12rds): Frank Liles (US, holder) bt Mauricio Amaral (Br) pts **International Boxing Federation featherweight championship** (12rds): Tom Johnson (US, holder) bt Jose Badillo (P Rico) pts

CRICKET

TOUR MATCH: Newcastle, Australia: West Indians 238 (C L Hooper 63, S L Campbell 53, D A Freedman 8-47) and 159 (G R J Matthews 5-43), New South Wales 308 (R Chee Quoo 105, M G Bevan 86, C A Walsh 4-61) and 69-2. Match drawn

CURLING

GRINDLEWALD, Switzerland: European championships: Round robin: first round: Men: Group A1: Scotland 8 Austria 5, Norway 7 Finland 6; Germany 9 Holland 5 **Group A2:** Italy 9 Switzerland 3, Sweden 8 Denmark 5, England 11 Wales 2 **Group B: France** 9 Luxembourg 5; Czech Republic 12 Belgium 7; Bulgaria 10 Hungary 4 **Second round: Group B:** Bulgaria 8 Belgium 3, France 15 Hungary 3, Russia 6 Luxembourg 4 **Women: Round robin: first round: Group A1:** Denmark 14 Luxembourg 3; Switzerland 13 Austria 5, Sweden 12 Czech Republic 6 **Group A2:** Scotland 12 France 5; Germany 11 England 3, Norway 8 Finland 6 **Group B:** Italy 8 Holland 4; Russia 11 Bulgaria 4 **Second round: Group B:** Italy 9 Russia 6, Bulgaria 9 Holland 7

CYCLING

CYCLO-CROSS: North of England championship (Consett, Co Durham) 11 miles: 1, B Green (Oldham Century RC) 1hr 5min 16sec; 2, C Young (Rocky Mountain) at 1:15; 3, J Watson (Bradford Olympic RCC) at 2:03 **Midlands championship** (Telford, 12 miles): 1, M Guy (Ace RT) 1:00.21; 2, J Taylor (Brook CC) at 2:01, 3, S Knight (Halesowen A and CC) at 2:11 **South of England championship** (Basingstoke) 10.5 miles: 1, R Hammond (South Western RC) 58:11, 2, B Clarke (Team Raleigh) at 28sec, 3 I Taylor (Redhill CC) at 3:38 **East of England championship** (Lyncoln) 12 miles: 1, M Daley (Cherry Valley RT) 1:01:42, 2, B Paton (Octagon VC) at 2:13, 3, S Barron (VC Lincoln) at 3:05 **Oxonian CC** (Great Haseley): **10.5 miles:** 1, R Rumpelow (Motorcom-Pinarello) 58:25; 2, P Smith (High Wycombe CC) at 23sec, 3, S Golding (Oxonian CC) at 4:07.

FENCING

HENDON POLICE COLLEGE: De Beaumont Cup international women's foil: 1, F McIntosh (Salle Paul); 2, L Harris (Salle Paul), 3 equal S Mawby (Salle Paul) and M Thomas (Salle Paul); 5 S Kellett (Boston), 6, L Stratton (Salle Paul); 7, C Smith (Boston), 8 E Smith (Salle Paul)

GOLF

THE GRANGE, Auckland: New Zealand Open: Final scores: 272: P O'Malley (Aus) 65, 67, 68, 72, 275: S Hoch (US) 71, 69, 67, 68, 278: F Nobilo (NZ) 70, 69, 68, 71; T Price (Aus) 69, 68, 68, 72, 277: E Ebuit (NZ) 69, 66, 73, 69; G Waite (NZ) 72, 66, 69, 70 279: D Fardon (Aus) 70, 70, 70, 69; S Conran (Aus) 72, 66, 72, 69, D Dunakey (US) 65, 72, 69, 73, C Parry (Aus) 68, 68, 70, 73 280: M Roberts (Aus) 71, 68, 70, 71; D Smal (NZ) 68, 67, 71, 74 **Selected scores:** 282: J Singh (Fiji) 70, 72, 70, 70 286: M Weir (Can) 72, 70, 70, 74, N Henning (SA) 68, 72, 74, 73 287: B Jackson (Eng) 71 68, 73, 77 292: A Oeka (Jpn) 70, 72, 72, 78

HO CHI MINH CITY: Vietnam Open: Final scores: 275: C Devers (US) 66, 66, 70, 73 276: B Rusnak (US) 69, 66, 69, 72, 277: Chan Liang (Taiwan) 73, 71, 69, 65 279: C Espinosa (Mex) 72, 69, 68, 70 280: Lin Keng (Taiwan) 67, 72, 66, 75, D Boulet (H K) 68, 69, 72, 71 281: P Marksaeng (Thai) 71, 70, 69, 71, 282: J Senior (Aus) 66, 72, 68, 76, T Wiratchant (Thai) 73, 72, 71, 66 283: M Mamat (Sing) 70, 71, 69, 73, S Taylor (Aus) 69, 74, 72, 68

HOCKEY

BRUSSELS: Men's international match: Belgium 0 Great Britain 1

NASTRO AZZURRO LEAGUE: Premier League: Anchorians 0 Gore Ct 2; High Wycombe 2 Bournemouth 3, Lions 5 O Walcountians 1; Wimbledon 3 Ashford 1, Woking 1 Maidenhead 2 Wokingham 0 Beckenham 1 **Postponed:** Newbury v Oxford, Spencer v Fareham, Lewes v O Kingstonians, Chichester v Winchester **Kent/Sussex:** Bromley 3 v Brighton 6; Mid Sussex 2 Marden Russets 2, Tulse Hill 1 Herne Bay 3 Worthing 4 Bexley Invicta 2. **Postponed:** Bexleyheath v Blackheath; O Beccehamians v Belvedere, O Holcombians v Horsham, O Wellensians v O Bordenians; Sevenoaks v Middleton, Tunbridge Wells v Crawley Hampshire/Surrey: Andover 4 Blandford 2, Barnes 1 O Whitgiftians 5, Camberley 2 O Edwardians 1; Solent HC 1 Basingstoke 2; Southampton 0 Petersfield 1, Walton and Weybridge 0 London Univ 6 **Postponed:** Epsom v Dulwich; O Mid Whitgiftians v Old Cranleighans, Cheshunt v Ormer Purley v Choam, Hilldale/Berks/Bucks and Oxon: Harrow 1 ETESSA 1, Hayes 1 Ramgarhia 3 HCC 0 Rechings Park 0, Marlow 5 NPL 0; Mid Hill 0 CAMT 1, Milton Keynes 1 PHC Cresswell 2 **Postponed:** Bracknell v Headington; City of Oxford v Amersham Eastcote v Staines, Hendon v Sunbury

DTZ DEBENHAM THORPE LEAGUE: Premier division. Bridgnorth 3 Bromsgrove 1, Hampton-in-Arden 0 Nottingham 1; Harborne 3 Belper 0 John Player 1 North Notts 3, Khalsa 1 Loughborough Students 0.

NORTH LEAGUE: First division: Ben Rhydding 3 Timperley 3, Formby 1 Warrington 2, Neston 2 Sheffield Bankers 1, Southport 1 Halifax 2 **Postponed:** Harrogate v Norton

SUN LIFE WEST LEAGUE: First division: Cheltenham 1 Weston-super-Mare 4; Plymouth 1 Bristol 0, Exeter Univ 5 Robinsons 4, Swansea 0 Winchcurch 0; Taunton Vale 2 Bath Buccs 1

ADNAMS EAST LEAGUE: Premier division A: Cambridge Univ 0 Cambridge City 2; Peterborough 8 Bishops S 4. **Postponed:** Colchester v Chelmsford; Ipswich v Bedford, Bedford and Ilford v Bury St Edmunds. **Premier division B:** Romford 5 Dereham 3; Stevenage 0 Clacton 2 **Postponed:** Sudbury v Brentwood, Westcliff v Ipswich and East Suffolk, O Southendian v Luton

WOMEN'S CLUB MATCHES: Maidenhead 2 Basingstoke 0, Poynton 5 Deeside 2, Pressed Steel 9 Merton 2, Southgate 1 Teddington 0

WOMEN'S NATIONAL INDOOR LEAGUE: First division: Edinburgh Ladies 5 Bonagrass Grove 0, Hyndland 2 Clydesdale 1, Edinburgh Ladies 2 Western Club Photopoint 2, Bonagrass Grove 5 Clydesdale 0, Western Club Photopoint 2 Bonagrass Grove 3, **Indoor Cup: Quarterfinals:** Edinburgh Ladies 11 Menzieshill 1, Western Club Photopoint 5 Bonagrass Grove 2, Clydesdale 2 Hyndland 7, Highland 2 Aberdeen Bonaccord 4

SCOTTISH RESULTS: Women, Scottish Indoor Cup: Quarter-finals: Edinburgh Ladies 11 Menzieshill 1, Western Club Photopoint 5 Bonagrass Grove 2, Hyndland 7 Clydesdale 2, Aberdeen Bon Accord 4 Highland 2 **Scottish Plate: Semi-finals:** Menzieshill 6 Clydesdale 4, Bonagrass Grove 8 Highland 1

ICE HOCKEY

NATIONAL LEAGUE (NHL) New Jersey 4 NY Islanders 2, Florida 3 Boston 1; Montreal 2 NY Rangers 2; Pittsburgh 6 Hartford 0, Toronto 3 Dallas 1, Colorado 7 Ottawa 3; Vancouver 4 Calgary 3; St Louis 2 Los Angeles 1; Edmonton 4 San Jose 2.

Eastern Conference

Atlantic division

	W	L	T	Pts	F	A
Florida	20	7	2	42	101	69
NY Rangers	18	8	5	41	111	87
Philadelphia	18	7	4	40	107	67
New Jersey	13	13	3	29	78	72
Tampa Bay	11	12	5	27	79	83
Washington	11	13	3	25	70	74
NY Islanders	6	18	3	15	74	111

Northeast division

Pittsburgh	19	5	3	41	138	82
Montreal	13	12	2	28	84	87
Buffalo	11	13	3	25	82	84
Boston	10	13	4	24	82	102
Hartford	10	14	2	22	65	83
Ottawa	7	19	1	15	70	108

Western Conference

Central division

	W	L	T	Pts	F	A
Detroit	18	7	2	38	107	64
Toronto	14	9	5	33	91	80
St Louis	13	12	4	30	77	78
Winnipeg	13	12	3	29	101	98
Chicago	11	10	7	29	95	90
Dallas	9	10	6	24	71	77

Pacific division

Colorado	17	8	4	38	129	89
Los Angeles	12	11	6	30	94	91
Anaheim	11	16	3	25	91	95
Vancouver	9	12	7	25	102	110
Edmonton	9	15	5	23	78	112
Calgary	5	17	6	16	68	99
San Jose	5	20	4	14	87	138

BRITISH LEAGUE: Premier division: Basingstoke 4 Cardiff 4, Durham 6 Nottingham 2, Fife 2 Sheffield 12; Newcastle 11 Humberside 4, Slough 9 Milton Keynes 7 **First division:** Billingham 5 Manchester 18 Chelmsford 6 Paisley 5, Dumfries 12 Telford 6, Guildford 9 Solihull 5; Medway 2 Bracknell 12, Peterborough 4 Blackburn 12; Swindon 9 Murrayfield 0

LACROSSE

DAILY TELEGRAPH FLAGS: Second round: Men: Senior: Poynton 6 Cheadle 17, Mellor 3 Heaton Mersey 8, Imperley 5 Stockport 13 **Postponed:** Sheffield v O Waconians **Junior:** Cheadle 4, 11 O Waconians A 4; Aston-under-Lyme 3 Nottingham Univ 8

RACKETS

QUEEN'S CLUB: Lacoste Men's amateur championships: Singles: Final: J Male bt W Boone 15-7, 15-4, 15-9

SNOOKER

FRANKFURT: German Open: Quarter-final: K Doherty (Ire) bt M Bennett (Wales) 5-2 **Semi-finals:** J Higgins (Scot) bt A McManus (Scot) 6-5, Doherty bt S Hendry (Scot) 6-3

WORLD RANKINGS: 1, S Hendry (Scot), 2, J Higgins (Scot); 3, P Ebdon (Eng); 4, J Parrott (Eng), 5, N Bond (Eng); 6, R O'Sullivan (Eng); 7, A McManus (Scot), 8, S Davis (Eng); 9, J Wattana (Thai); 10, J White (Eng); 11, D Morgan (Wales), 12, K Doherty (Ire); 13, A Hicks (Eng), 14, A Robidoux (Can); 15, A Drago (Malta), 16, J Swail (N Ire), 17, T Griffiths (Wales); 18, G Wilkinson (Eng), 19, D O'Kane (NZ); 20, D Harold (Eng)

SPEED SKATING

OSLO, Norway: World Cup: Men: 500m: 1, Y Miyabe (Japan) 37.64sec, 2, S Klevshenva (Russ) 37.79, 3, R Strom (Nor) 37.81, 4, G Nies (Nor) 37.85, 5, J Inoue (Japan) 38.03 **Standings:** 1, S Klevshenva 105pts; 2 M Hori (Japan) 90, 3, Y Miyabe (Japan) 81; 4, J Inoue 80 **1,500m:** 1, N Marshall (Can) 1.57.75, 2, T Aoyanagi (Japan) 1.58.76; 3 A Anufrienko (Russ) 1.58.93, 4, J Straalhof (Holl) 1.59.05; 5, R Ritsma (Holl) 1.59.15 **Women: 3,000m:** 1, C Pechstein (Ger) 4.32.92; 2, M Uehara (Japan) 4.35.34, 3, C Zijlstra (Holl) 4.36.45, 4, A Thomas (Holl) 4.37.11; 5, E Belo (It) 4.37.57 **Standings:** 1, C Pechstein 110pts, 2, M Uehara (Japan) 95, 3, G Niemann (Ger) 80, 4, C Zijlstra (Holl) 71

SQUASH

BOMBAY: Men's Mahindra challenge: Quarter-finals: B Martin (Aus) bt A Turkistani (Eng) 15-11, 15-11, 15-9; P Nicol (Scot) bt J Bonerat (Fr) 15-11, 15-4, 15-12, C Walker (Eng) bt S Parke (Eng) 15-9, 15-12, 15-9; R Eyles (Aus) bt M Cairns (Eng) 15-12 8-15, 15-8, 15-9

BRADFORD: Men's Yorkshire Open championships: Semi-finals: Men: D Campion bt L Beachill 9-2, 9-5, 9-0, M Bonnet bt J Scott 9-1, 9-4, 9-4 **Women:** J Thacker bt E Parke 9-0, 9-0, 9-1, C Fleetwood bt J Field 9-0, 7-9, 9-3, 9-1

TABLE TENNIS

TAMPERE, Finland: Men's international championships: Singles: Quarter-finals: J-O Waldner (Swe) bt O Marmurek (Fr) 21-14, 21-11, 21-17, T von Scheele (Swe) bt L Zhigang (China) 18-21, 21-11, 21-16, 13-21, 21-19, Y Sen (China) bt J Persson (Swe) 21-15, 21-17, 15-21, 21-7, F Zhe (China) bt I Solopov (Est) 19-21, 21-13, 23-25, 21-15, 21-9 **Doubles: Semi-finals:** T von Scheele and M Stenbeg (Swe) bt P Nilsson and F Haakansson (Swe) 21-19, 21-16; W Liqing and Y Sen (China) bt O Zhigang and L Jing (China) 18-21, 21-18, 21-18

TENNIS

DUBLIN: European men's team championship: First division (white group): Great Britain bt Ireland 3-0 (GB names first): T Henman bt J Doran 6-1, 6-2; G Rusedski bt S Barron 7-5, 6-2, M Petchey and N Broad bt Barron and E Collins 6-1, 7-6 Israel bt Slovenia 3-0

MUNICH: Men's Grand Slam Cup: Final: G Ivanisevic (Cro) bt T Martin (US) 7-5, 6-3, 6-4

NOTTINGHAM: Reebok tour: Finals: Singles: Men: C Wilkinson (Hants) bt P Hand (Berks) 6-2, 6-4 **Women:** C Taylor (Orton) bt J Lutrova (Russ) 4-6, 6-2, 6-3

RUGBY UNION

CIS tour match

South West 16 **W Samoans** 31

South West Division: Tries: Enoch, Yandell. **Dropped goals:** Dix 2 **Western Samoans: Tries:** Autagavaia, Betwhistle, Patu, Tefesa. **Con:** Kellett. **Pens:** Kellett 3

(at Gloucester)

CIS divisional championship

Midlands 42 **North** 45

Midland division: Tries: Challinor 2, Farr, Grewcock, Pountney, Whetstone. **Cons:** Quarrell 3 **Pens:** Quarrell 2 **North division: Tries:** Baxendell 2, Healey 2, Greenwood, penalty try. **Cons:** Lilley 6. **Pen:** Lilley.

(at Nottingham)

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
North	3	3	0	0	101	66	6
Midlands	3	2	0	1	94	90	4
South West	3	1	0	2	82	65	2
London	3	0	0	3	54	80	0

CIS county championship

Midlands

Semi-finals

North Midlands 38 **Leicestershire** 28

North Midlands: Tries: Baylie 2, Lewis, Radbourne, Woodworth. **Cons:** Pennington 2 **Pens:** Pennington 3, **Leicestershire: Tries:** Sandford 3 **Cons:** Hope 2. **Pens:** Hope 3.

(at Worcester)

Postponed: Warwickshire v Staffordshire.

North

Cumbria 18 **Cheshire** 22

Cumbria: Tries: Cusack, Pearson, Slater. **Pen:** Southwell. **Cheshire: Try:** Farr **Con:** Swindells **Pens:** Guest 2, Swindells 2. **Dropped goal:** Guest.

(at Workington)

Durham 16 **Lancashire** 19

Durham: Try: Gustard **Con:** Oliphant. **Pens:** Oliphant 3. **Lancashire: Try:** Monaghan. **Con:** Gough **Pens:** Gough 4.

(at Darlington RFC)

Yorkshire 28 **Northumberland** 19

Yorkshire: Tries: Heaselgrave 2, Hesletine, Selkirk. **Con:** Howarth. **Pens:** Howarth 2 **Northumberland: Tries:** Briggs, Burn, Clayton-Hibbott **Cons:** Belgian 2.

(at Hull Ionaris)

South

Bucks 13 **Dorset and Wilts** 42

Buckinghamshire: Try: Wilcox. **Con:** Lucker **Pens:** Lucker 2. **Dorset and Wilts: Tries:** A Tucker, Martin, Rowland, Spencer 3, Stuart. **Cons:** P Graves, Palmer **Pen:** P Graves.

(at Aylesbury)

Hampshire 20 **Sussex** 3

Hampshire: Tries: Knight, Packer, Rowledge. **Con:** Rowledge **Pen:** Rowledge. **Sussex: Pen:** Morrison.

(at Havant)

Eastern Counties 13 **Surrey** 32

Eastern Counties: Try: Scott. **Con:** G Cutting **Pens:** G Cutting 2. **Surrey: Tries:** Brady, Brosch, Greville, Murphy **Cons:** Hoad 3 **Pen:** Hoad **Dropped goal:** Hoad.

(at Bury St Edmunds)

Somerset 42 **Cornwall** 22

Somerset: Tries: Butler, Harris, Larkins 2, Westcott 2. **Cons:** Edmonds 3 **Pen:** Edmonds **Dropped goal:** Pells. **Cornwall: Tries:** Atkinson, C Whitworth, Stone. **Cons:** S Whitworth, Thomas. **Pen:** Thomas.

(at Bridgwater)

Postponed: Hertfordshire v Oxfordshire; Middlesex v Kent; Gloucestershire v Devon.

CIS under-21 county championship

North

Cumbria 16 **Cheshire** 6

Durham 9 **Lancashire** 25

Yorkshire 50 **Northumberland** 5

South West: Postponed: Berkshire v Buckinghamshire; Somerset v Devon.

Irish inter-provincial championships

Leinster 41 **Connacht** 9

Leinster: Tries: Gavin, Hogan, O'Shea 2. **Cons:** McGowan 3. **Pens:** McGowan 4, O'Shea. **Connacht: Pens:** Elwood 3.

(at Dublin)

Munster 20 **Exiles** 14

Munster: Tries: Tollen 2. **Cons:** Burke 2. **Pen:** Burke. **Dropped goal:** Toughy. **Exiles: Tries:** Henderson, Malone **Cons:** Corcoran 2.

(at Musgrave Park)

Heineken League

First division

Bridgend 19 **Aberavon** 16

Bridgend: Try: Williams. **Con:** M Lewis. **Pens:** M Lewis 3. **Dropped goal:** M Lewis. **Aberavon: Tries:** B Shenton, Grabham. **Pens:** Stork 2.

Neath 76 **Ebbw Vale** 29

Neath: Tries: Allen, Bridges, D Morris, Evans 2, Higgs, J Davies, L Davies, R Jones 2, Scott, Wintle. **Cons:** Bridges 8 **Ebbw Vale: Tries:** Ford 2, Lewis, Williams **Cons:** Hayward 3. **Pen:** Hayward.

Newport 13 **Newbridge** 20

Newport: Try: Gray **Con:** G Rees. **Pens:** G Rees 2. **Newbridge: Tries:** Gibbs, Lucas, Marshall, Smith.

Swansea 46 **Treorchy** 24

Swansea: Tries: Anthony, Boobyer 2, Harris, Simon Davies 2, Taylor. **Cons:** A Williams 4. **Pen:** A Williams. **Treorchy:** Tries: D Evans, Hammans, P Jones. **Cons:** D Evans 3 **Pen:** D Evans.

Postponed: Abertillery v Llanelli; Pontypridd v Cardiff

	P	W	D	L	F	A	T	B	Pts
Cardiff	12	9	0	3	398	196	48	14	32
Neath	12	8	1	3	341	166	51	14	31
Pontypridd	11	9	0	2	329	157	37	11	29
Llanelli	11	8	0	3	307	153	40	12	28
Swansea	11	6	0	5	383	207	54	15	27
Bridgend	13	7	0	6	312	252	38	11	25
Newbridge	13	7	0	6	218	246	30	7	21
Newport	13	8	1	4	241	272	21	4	21
Ebbw Vale	13	5	0	8	220	349	23	3	13
Treorchy	12	1	0	11	207	418	24	5	7
Aberavon	13	2	0	11	178	434	19	3	7
Aberillery	12	2	0	10	170	454	16	2

Christian Dymond describes how he got carried away in a chariot when trying husky racing in Scotland

Taking the dogs for a walk — at 25mph

ALLSPORT



JACQUES COCHIN



Husky racers in Britain often use a three-wheel rig instead of a sled because there is not enough snow. Trainers say that the huskies enjoy the sport and the work that it involves. Teams of dogs range in number from one to eight

This was the stuff of the Arctic. Me, four Siberian husky dogs and a great, white expanse of Scottish Borders. The first snow of the winter here had fallen the night before, though not quite enough of it to justify the use of a sled.

Instead I was husky racing with a three-wheeled rig which had the feel of a chariot. Certainly, when I took my foot off the rudimentary brake pedal and accelerated to 25mph — although it felt like 90mph — *Ben Hur* flashed through my mind.

The dogs' owners, Jay and Bernard Whiteley, had warned me about keeping a tight grip on the bar across the front of the rig when we set off, the dogs full of beans and me full of apprehension.

They pulled enthusiastically along a snowy track which went down over a field. One hand gripped the bar, the other clutched the steering rod because I could see a ditch to one side and corners ahead.

I negotiated the obstacles with liberal use of the brake pedal and we were off again, this time heading up a slight incline. The dogs slowed a bit and I hopped off the rig and ran behind, pushing to ease the burden.

Mr Whiteley says: "The main factor is no detriment to the dogs, no injury or excess pressure on them." Mrs Whiteley adds: "You're always going to get some degree of concern from some people as to whether or not dogs ought to be doing this kind of thing just as you do, I suppose, with horses with steeplechasing and horse racing. But basically you show a dog a harness and watch its behaviour and you begin to realise that it's far from unkind to ask them to work."

There was another thing they mentioned too. You have to be reasonably fit to indulge in this sport. If you're in the open country there may be times when you jump off and run behind the sled or the rig to help the dogs up a hill. Keep hold as well, otherwise they might go off without you.

Once we reached the brow I got back on again and tried a bit of husky language. "Hike on," I shouted, and the dogs proceeded with speed. Once I had to turn left and the shout was "Haw". Right and it would have been "Gee".

I was beginning to feel a bit more in control and relaxing into the role of musher. Musher is the driver, the term thought to originate from the French word *marcher*, which means to walk or to go.

Elsewhere nothing moved in the landscape. It was very cold, a temperature that, obviously, the huskies preferred. I reached the end of my outward course totally exhilarated and Mr Whiteley helped turn the team around before we set off for home. "Hike on," I shouted again.

SPORT FOR ALL

Verbal commands are the method used for controlling the dogs because there are no reins. Your lead dog and your wheel dog (the one nearest the sled or rig) should therefore be able to understand what is going on when a command is given.

There was still plenty of energy left in Solvik, Uly, Braan and Kjavik. The Whiteleys, who also breed Siberian huskies, are training two or three times a week and attending races all over the country in the season (November-March) so the dogs are very fit.

The couple, keen cyclists, got into the sport nine years ago after they bought a Siberian husky puppy. Before committing themselves wholeheartedly they went to see a number of sled dog races. This they recommend to anyone keen to take up the sport. They also say it's helpful to train a young dog by putting it in with an experienced team.

A sled on snow is quicker and the dogs prefer it too. But a lack of snow in this country means much racing is done with rigs, which tends to be a bit bumpier. Speeds average 10-15mph.

Competitions, with teams setting off at two or three minute intervals, are held in a number of Forestry Commission forests and on also on privately-owened land. Distances for adults range from three to 13 miles. If you want to train on Forestry Commission land you need a permit and if using private land, you must get permission from the owners too.

The four recognised sled dog breeds — Siberian husky, Alaskan Malamute, Eskimo Dog and Samoyed — are not eligible for competition until they are 12 months old but you can start training them before. Dog teams can vary in size from one (for children, who must wear helmets) to six, and rarely to eight.

For the Whiteleys there is immense pleasure in sled dog racing. Mrs Whiteley says: "The thing I like best about it is just being out in the woods with the dogs in total silence." Mr Whiteley adds: "It's tremendous fun and there's a good social aspect. It's the ultimate dog walk."

There was no doubt the huskies were raring to go before I set off. Common practice is for the rig or sled to be attached by a snub line to something immovable so the dogs don't take off before they're all harnessed up. And when everything is ready and you undo the snub line, making sure it doesn't get caught in the wheels; that's the time to hold on. The dogs were off like a rocket.

At the end they looked as if they still had plenty of puff in them. It was just me who felt worn out. Braan rolled around in the snow. I watched her and considered rolling in the snow as well. Then I thought: "I'm warm, but not that warm."

● *Siberian Husky Club of Great Britain: 01604 686281 (evenings). Winalot Complete Siberian Husky Club Snow Rally, January 20-21, 1996 at Aviemore, Scotland. Equipment: sled £300-£400, rig £200-£300, harness and lines price varies according to size. Siberian Husky puppy £400-£500.*

THE TIMES

Win the chance to be a foreign correspondent for *The Times*

IF YOU had the chance to be a foreign correspondent for six weeks where would it be? What issue would you want to report on and why? Why do you think the British people would benefit from hearing about your chosen subject?



Tell us and you could win the opportunity to become our Young Foreign Correspondent of the Year. *The Times*, in association with Royal Mail, has organised a competition exclusively for students.

The winner will be able to fly with a companion on a Lufthansa flight to almost anywhere in the world from Cologne to Beijing and he or she will be given £2,000 for living expenses while they research the particular issue they want to write about.

All you have to do is convince the judges in a 1,000-word report that your chosen subject is interesting and that it would also be of interest to readers of *The Times*. Unlike most foreign correspondents, who have to report on world events which are in the news, you have the freedom to write about anything.

It can be about anything from a ship wrecked off the Gulf of Guinea 200 years ago, to the plight of a child who stumbled over a landmine in Cambodia, or a choir of singing nuns you met on a walking tour of the Sierra Madre.

It may be amusing or it may be moving, you could have read about the subject briefly in a newspaper article and want to investigate it further. Or you may have been writing letters to someone you know on the other side of the world and they have told you a fascinating story you think deserves a wider audience.



Although *The Times* will not guarantee to publish the report you file from abroad, we may do so and we would expect it to be written and presented in a professional way. How you get it to us, whether you return and hand-deliver it or send it via a laptop computer with a fax modem, is something our foreign editor would work out with the winner.

There will be five runners-up who will be given a pair of Lufthansa Young Europe Special (YES) tickets for themselves and a companion worth over £700.

YES is the German airline's special travel programme for students which allows them to purchase between four and ten flights for £59 each. They can choose to travel to 31 European countries and 85 cities with few restrictions about when they may fly and they are able to stay at any stopover for a maximum of six months.

The winner will receive a writing kit from Royal Mail and all finalists will get a pack of free aerogrammes. Six finalists will be invited to attend a judging session at the Royal Geographical Society, Kensington, London, when the overall winner will be chosen.

The judges will be looking for students who:

- can communicate effectively on paper
- have a sincere interest in writing
- display knowledge or genuine curiosity about their chosen destination
- write legibly or, better still, type your report, (double spacing, wide margins)

The Judging Panel will consist of distinguished foreign correspondents, including the BBCs foreign editor, John Simpson, Royal Mail and Lufthansa. Their decision is final and no correspondence can be entered into. They reserve the right to reject any potentially dangerous countries or propositions.

Lufthansa

HOW TO ENTER

Complete the coupon right, in block capitals, and send it, with your 1,000-word report, to: **The Times Young Foreign Correspondent Competition, 5 Brittons Court, London EC 88 1NG.**

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

The closing date is Sunday, December, 31,1995. All entrants must be aged between 18 and 30. Your entry cannot be returned so we suggest you keep a photo copy. Employees of News International, Royal Mail, Lufthansa and the Royal Geographic Society are not eligible to enter. Normal Times Newspapers competition rules apply.

YOUNG FOREIGN CORRESPONDENT OF THE YEAR

Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms .....
First Name .....
Surname .....
Address .....
.....
Postcode .....

Please complete the following phrase in 25 words or less "writing and receiving letters is the most effective way of learning about different international issues because

.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....

1. Which of the following age groups do you fall into? (Please tick box)
1) 15-24 ☐ 2) 25-90 ☐

2. Which national daily newspaper(s) do you buy regularly (4-6 copies) during the week?
.....
.....

3. Which national daily newspaper(s) do you buy occasionally (less than 3 copies) during the week?
.....
.....

4. Which national Sunday newspaper(s) do you buy regularly (2-4 copies a month)?
.....
.....

If you do not wish to receive mailings of offers or services from *The Times* or other companies carefully selected by Times Newspapers Limited, please tick this box. ☐

SHEEHAN on BRIDGE

BY ROBERT SHEEHAN, BRIDGE CORRESPONDENT

Dealer North — Game all — IMPs

	♠K42 ♥Q643 ♦8 ♣KJ1032	
♠J7 ♥AK875 ♦9764 ♣84	N W E S	♠A95 ♥J10 ♦KJ105 ♣9765
	♠Q10863 ♥92 ♦AQ32 ♣AQ	

W	N	E	S
—	Pass	Pass	1 S
Pass	2 S	Pass	3 D
Pass	4 S	All pass	

Contract: Four Spades by South. Lead: Ace of Hearts

For the next week or so, the bidding diagrams will use letters instead of symbols to describe the bids. Letters are easier to read, symbols are more traditional. Reader reaction please.
NB: S = spades; D = diamonds.

This hand from the Marlboro Bermuda Bowl was played at eight tables. West usually started with two rounds of hearts. But what next?

The popular decision was to play a passive eight of hearts. This might have promoted the jack of spades into a trump trick if East had been dealt specifically the queen-ten alone of spades. However, you can see the denouement: East trustingly ruffed the third heart and declarer overruffed and later played for the remaining trumps to be 2-2, so making his contract.This was shortsighted defence by West. The actual layout in trumps was quite predictable and much more likely than finding East with a specific doubleton.

In addition, if declarer needed a discard on the queen of hearts, say for his third club, he could always take it later. It must be better for West simply to exit with a diamond (which is not doing anything for declarer that he cannot do for himself) and leave declarer to do all the hard work on his own. That way, West will probably score the jack of spades.

☐ Robert Sheehan writes on bridge Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

KEENE on CHESS

BY RAYMOND KEENE
CHESS CORRESPONDENT

Kasparov in London

Garry Kasparov, the world chess champion, is in London this week to contest a match against the world computer champion, Fritz3.1. The match, consisting of two speed-games, lasting 50 minutes each, will take place on Wednesday, December 13 commencing at 3pm. The venue will be the Conference Forum, Sedgwick Centre, London E1. To apply for tickets ring 0171-388 2404.

Youngster beaten

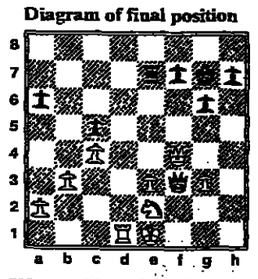
Here are the moves of the game which Garry Kasparov won against 11-year-old Luke McShane on the Intel Internet Challenge last week. McShane played resourcefully in the opening but in a favourable position he committed an elementary blunder which lost a rook with check.

White: Garry Kasparov
Black: Luke McShane
Internet Simultaneous Display, December 1995

English Opening

1	c4	g6
2	g3	Bg7
3	Bg2	d6
4	Nc3	c5
5	e3	Nf6
6	Nge2	0-0
7	0-0	Nc6
8	d3	Bd7
9	h3	a6
10	b3	Rb8
11	Bb2	b5
12	Qd2	Qb6
13	Rad1	bxc4
14	dxc4	Ne5
15	Ba1	Bxh3
16	f4	Bxg2
17	fxe5	Ne4
18	Nxe4	Bxe4
19	exd6	Bxa1
20	dxe7	Rfe8
21	Rxa1	Rxe7
22	Rad1	Qe6
23	Qd6	Qh3
24	Qxb8+	Kg7
25	Kf2	Qg2+
26	Ke1	Bf3
27	Rxf3	Qxf3
28	Qf4	Black resigns

Diagram of final position



Times World Championship book

All games of the world title matches are now available with commentary by Raymond Keene in a *Times* book, *World Chess Championship: Kasparov v Anand* (Batsford £9.99). Credit card orders on 01376 327901 (please quote 5/655).

☐ Raymond Keene writes on chess Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

WORD-WATCHING

By Philip Howard

AUDI
a. Amalgamated Union of Divers
b. French remains
c. Corsican Fascists

FRITTO MISTO
a. The Venetian miasma
b. A Vatican bursar
c. Mixed grill

DATO
a. A Borneo laird
b. Empirically
c. A pretty boy

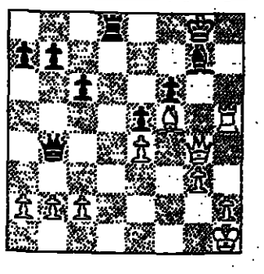
FIRBOLG
a. A Tolkien goblin
b. A colonist of Ireland
c. A wart in conifers

Answers on page 37

WINNING MOVE

By Raymond Keene

This position is from the game Petrosian — Moldagaljev, USSR 1970. Although ex-world champion Tigran Petrosian was mainly known as an outstanding strategist, he was also a brilliant tactician. Here is an example from one of his games. White to play and win.



Solution on page 37

هكذا من الأصل

Valuing share of farming partnership

Walton v Inland Revenue Commissioners

Before Lord Justice Evans, Lord Justice Peter Gibson and Lord Justice Henry

[Judgment November 30]

On the valuation, for the purposes of capital transfer tax under section 38 of the Finance Act 1975, of the share of a partner in a farming partnership the assets of which included the agricultural tenancy of the farm, the freeholder of the farm should be deemed to have all the personal characteristics of the actual freeholder rather than a hypothetical person on the assumed hypothetical sale of the tenancy.

The Court of Appeal so stated dismissing an appeal by the Inland Revenue Commissioners by way of case stated from the decision of the Lands Tribunal dated March 11, 1994, who found in favour of the taxpayer, John Hedley Walton, junior, suing as the surviving executor of John Hedley Walton, deceased, on his appeal against a notice of determination made by the Revenue under paragraph 6 of Schedule 4 to the Finance Act 1975.

The deceased died in 1984. The executors of his will were his two sons John and Frederick. Frederick died in 1989. The deceased and John carried on a farming partnership. The freehold of the farm was owned by the deceased, John and Frederick in equal shares.

By an agricultural tenancy agreement dated March 10, 1971 the freeholders let the farm to the deceased and John on a tenancy commencing on May 12, 1969 and continuing from year to year until determined by the freeholders or the partners by 12 months notice in writing.

The agreement required one of the partners to live in the farmhouse and it was not assignable without the consent of the freeholders. In August 1984 the annual rent of the farm was £6,000.

A notice of determination was issued by the Revenue that the value of the deceased's estate included the value of his interests in the partnership business and in the assets thereof, that the tenancy was such an asset, that the value of the deceased's interests in the partnership was to be taken as 50 per cent of the value of the assets of the partnership business less 50 per cent of the business liabilities.

John appealed to the Lands Tribunal against that determination taking issue with the Revenue's entire approach to the valuation.

The tribunal rejected the Revenue's approach of valuing the tenancy as a whole, holding that the property that was the subject of the deemed transfer was an undivided beneficial interest in the tenancy as a partnership asset.

They pointed out that the deemed transferee of the deceased's interests in the partnership would not have had an opportunity to offer the tenancy on the open market; it was unassignable save with the consent of the freeholders which might be arbitrarily withheld. Nor could the transferee assign the interest in the partnership without the consent of his partner, John.

The tribunal did not accept an argument by the Revenue that the net assets of the partnership business had to be valued and divided by two and they also rejected a contention that the freeholder must be taken to be a hypothetical person, who might be expected to want to obtain a realisation of the vacant possession premium. They further rejected the argument that John as a special purchaser would pay a premium to exclude a stranger from purchasing the deceased's share or to realise the vacant possession premium.

Section 38 of the 1975 Act provides: "(1) Except as otherwise provided by this part of this Act, the value at any time of any property shall for the purposes of capital transfer tax be the price which the property might reasonably be expected to fetch if sold in the open market at that time."

Mr David Neuberger, QC, for the Revenue; Mr Derek Wood, QC and Mr Robert Ham, QC, for the taxpayer.

LORD JUSTICE PETER GIBSON said that one of the questions raised in the case stated was whether in the circumstances of the hypothetical sale of the annual agricultural tenancy required to be assumed under section 38 of the 1975 Act the freeholder of the farm should be deemed to have all the personal inclinations and characteristics of the actual freeholder or whether he should be assumed to be a hypothetical person.

The question was in his Lordship's judgment incorrectly worded. On the death of a partner where the partnership assets included an annual agricultural tenancy, section 38 did not require the hypothetical sale of the entire tenancy but only of the deceased partner's interest therein, as the tribunal had found.

His Lordship would therefore proceed to answer the question as though the reference to the tenancy were read as a reference to the deceased's interest in the tenancy.

It was Mr Neuberger's primary contention that the tribunal erred in concluding that for the purposes of the valuation exercise one should take the actual landlord with all his attributes rather than assuming a hypothetical landlord who was neither desperate to purchase nor uninterested in purchasing and who was neither in straitened circumstances nor extremely rich. He submitted that as a matter of practical common sense, to admit the evidence of the actual landlord as to his desires and intentions was an unfair and undesirable course.

His Lordship readily accepted that such evidence might be self-serving, but it was for the tribunal of fact to determine what, if any, credence should be given to that evidence.

The insuperable difficulty in Mr Neuberger's path was that there was nothing in the statute to support his contention. The open market hypothesis did not require as a necessary incident of it that the landlord should be hypothetical.

In his Lordship's judgment the statute required one to assume a sale but it should be assumed to take place in the real world. The majority decision of the Court of Appeal in *Trocette Property Co Ltd v Greater London Council* ([1974] 28 P & CR 408) was in any event determinative of the question.

It was not necessary for the operation of the statutory hypothesis of a sale in the open market of an interest in a tenancy that the landlord should be treated as a hypothetical person, and it was a question of fact to be established by the evidence before the tribunal of fact whether the attributes of the actual landlord would be taken into account in the market.

The same logic required that in the case of a deceased partner owning an interest in a tenancy which was a partnership asset, regard should be had to the actual intention of the actual surviving partner and not to a hypothetical partner.

Lord Justice Evans and Lord Justice Henry agreed.

Solicitors: Solicitor, Inland Revenue; Nicholson Wood & Gregg, Hexham.

Damages for loss of substantial chance

First Interstate Bank of California v Cohen Arnold & Co

Before Lord Justice Nourse, Lord Justice Ward and Mr Justice Sedley

[Judgment November 28]

In an action for negligence, a plaintiff who was able to prove that the defendant's action had caused him the loss of a chance that was substantial and not merely speculative, was entitled to damages for that loss. The evaluation of that chance was a matter to be taken into account in quantifying the amount of the damages to be awarded.

The Court of Appeal so held in a reserved judgment allowing an appeal by the defendants, Cohen Arnold & Co, chartered accountants, by reducing the amount of the £1.9 million damages that Mr Justice Jacob had in March 1994 ordered them to pay to the plaintiff, First Interstate Bank of California, for the loss of the chance to sell development property in a falling market.

Mr William Crowther, QC and Mr Christopher Gibson for the defendants; Mr Steven Gee, QC and Mr Joseph Smouha for the bank.

LORD JUSTICE NOURSE said that the questions were whether the bank in an action for negligent misstatement was entitled to damages for the loss of a chance and, if so, of what amount.

The bank financed a property transaction in Southwark entered into by Mr Milton Gross, a client of the defendants.

In June 1990 the loan stood at £4.8 million and, owing to market conditions, the bank became anxious and made inquiries to the defendants as to Mr Gross's net worth.

In a letter dated June 22, Mr Michael Barnett, the partner responsible, replied that Mr Gross was considered to be worth in excess of £45 million. The defendants admired by August 17 that Mr Gross had assets worth no more the £57,000 and that they had been in breach of their duty of care to the bank when writing the letter.

In September the bank started marketing the property, it being eventually sold in lots for a total of £1.4 million.

The judge had found that the bank had relied on the letter until at least August 17 and the probability was that had it known the true position in June it would have enforced its security by marketing the property then and obtaining on the sale an estimated price of £3 million.

The judge recorded the opposing submission made by the defendants that had the true position been known what would have happened to the property was much the same as what did happen.

The judge went on to say that a balance between the alternative routes advanced by Mr Gee and Mr Crowther was slightly in favour of the bank (60 per cent) and gave a final figure of £2.7 million. Damages, he said, should be assessed on the basis of a sale at that figure at the end of September. After the £1.4 million proceeds had been set off against the £2.7 million and interest calculations made, the judge gave judgment for £1.9 million.

The relevant principles for quantifying damages for loss of chance were laid down in the judgment of the Court of Appeal in *Allied Maples Group Ltd v Simmons & Simmons* ([1995] 1 WLR 1602), a decision given after Mr Justice Jacob's judgment in the instant case.

Lord Justice Stuart-Smith, having said that Allied Maples could succeed provided they showed that they had a substantial chance rather than a speculative one, went on to refer to *Davies v Taylor* ([1974] AC 207, 213) where Lord Reid had said "... you cannot prove that a future event will happen and I do not think that the law is so foolish as to suppose that you can. All that you can do is to evaluate the chance. Sometimes it is virtually one hundred per cent: sometimes virtually nil. But often it is somewhere in between."

Had the judge been able to apply the principles there stated, the first question confronting him would have been whether, if the bank had known the true position on June 22, it would have taken Mr Gee's route, Mr Crowther's or some other route.

The judge's finding that he had a preference for Mr Gee's route was to be treated as a finding, on the balance of probabilities, that the bank would have followed that route and put the property on the market in June.

The next question for the judge would have been whether the bank had proved that it had a real or substantial chance, as opposed to a speculative one, of selling the property for more than it did. On the evidence the judge would have been bound to hold that the chance was a real or substantial one.

The final and crucial question for the judge would have been the valuation of the chance. His estimate that the property would have sold for £3 million in September was relevant to that question but could not stand as a valuation of the chance, it would value it at 100 per cent.

The court had to decide whether it should be valued at that or at some lower percentage. Doing the best that could be done on the material available to the court, the chance was to be valued at 66⅔ per cent. Thus the judge's award was to be reduced by substituting the figure of £2 million for £2.7 million and calculating the damages accordingly.

Lord Justice Ward and Mr Justice Sedley gave concurring judgments.

Solicitors: Alastair Thomson & Partners; Mishcon de Reya.

No capital allowance for car wash site and structures

Attwood (Inspector of Taxes) v Anduff Car Wash Ltd

Before Mr Justice Carnwath

[Judgment December 1]

Expenditure by the operator of car washes on sites and structures in which the car washing machinery was housed did not qualify for capital allowances under sections 41 and 44 of the Finance Act 1971, now sections 22 and 24 of the Capital Allowances Act 1990. The expenditure was not incurred on the provision of "plant", the items being merely part of the premises where the car washing business was carried out.

Mr Justice Carnwath so held in the Chancery Division when allowing an appeal by the Crown from a determination of special commissioners (Mr T. H. K. Everett and Mr D. A. Shirley) that had upheld claims for the relief from corporation tax for year from 1984 to 1990 by Anduff Car Wash Ltd.

Mr Alan Moses, QC and Mr Timothy Brennan for the Crown; Mr Peter Whiteman, QC and Mr Brian Green for the company.

MR JUSTICE CARNWATH said that the company's trade was operating car wash sites, having some 78 sites throughout the country. On each side was a building incorporating the machinery and control equipment and a surrounding tarmac area used for circulation, queuing and parking of cars. The sites, laid out in accordance with a German system, the IMO system, allowed for rapid throughput of vehicles, four being able to pass through at one time.

The commissioners, having found that the layout of the site was crucial to the car wash operation and having reviewed the extensive case law on the subject, concluded that each site, with the exception of fencing and landscaping, was to be treated as a single entity qualifying as "plant".

The commissioners' trawl through the authorities might have been shortened had they had the benefit of the Court of Appeal judgments in *Gray v Seymours Garden Centre (The Times*, May 31, 1995; [1995] STC 706) where the commissioners' determination that a glass house in which ornamental plants were kept and laid out for sale constituted "plant" was overturned.

In essence, Lord Justice Nourse, having referred with approval to Mr Justice Hoffmann's distinction between the "business use" test and the "premises" test in *Wimpy International Ltd v Warland* ([1988] STC 149), formulated a test that was little more than a restatement of Lord Justice Pearson's even pithier formulation some 30 years before in *Jarrold v John Good & Sons* ([1963] 1 WLR 214, 225): "whether the office partitioning is part of the premises in which the business is carried on or part of the plant with which the business is carried on".

The "premises" test was the latest and most useful answer to a problem which had exercised the courts during the 1980s that had arisen from the recognition by the House of Lords in *IRC v Barclay, Curle & Co Ltd* ([1969] 1 WLR 675), the dry-dock case, that "premises" and "plant" were not mutually exclusive concepts and that the same item might be both.

The distinction was further considered in *Benson v Yard Arm Club Ltd* ([1979] 1 WLR 347, CA) (a floating restaurant); *IRC v Scottish & Newcastle Breweries Ltd* ([1982] 1 WLR 322, HL) (hotel ornaments and fittings) and *Carr v Sayer* ([1992] STC 354) (dog quarantine kennels).

Here the commissioners, having set out extracts from the relevant authorities, including references to the "premises" test, seemed to have missed their significance.

There might be borderline cases where the distinction was difficult to draw but the instant case was not one of them. The site on which the car wash business was operated and the building in which the machinery was housed constituted the premises and they performed typical "premises" functions.

The site provided the space for access, circulation and parking. That was what sites did. The fact that it did it particularly well, as a result of its sophisticated design, did not change the nature of the function.

The building provided a housing for the washing machinery and the control room. It might be a particularly good type of building for the task, but it was none the less performing the typical function of a commercial building.

Mr Whiteman emphasised that the commissioners had found as a fact that the site was a single unit and thus was one of the exceptional cases, like *Barclay Curle*, where the "premises function as a plant and it becomes a tool in the trade".

However, any purpose-designed site could be said to function as "a single unit" but that did not make it a single unit of "plant". It simply meant that the whole complex or entity satisfied the "business use" test.

But it remained necessary to apply the "premises" test to identify and exclude those parts of the complex which functioned simply as premises, and were therefore not "plant".

Had the commissioners applied the correct test the only reasonable conclusion would have been that neither the site as a whole, nor the building could be regarded as a single unit of "plant".

Solicitors: Solicitor of Inland Revenue; Denton Hall.

Wrong route for remedy

Spargos Mining NL v Atlantic Capital Corporation

Before Mr Justice Colman

[Judgment November 24]

Where an action was brought to obtain money owed as a debt, the plaintiff could not pursue its claim by pleading the equitable remedy of money had and received.

Mr Justice Colman so held in the Queen's Bench Division, in a chambers judgment published with his Lordship's consent, when dismissing the application of the defendant, Atlantic Capital Corporation, to have an order of service out of the jurisdiction obtained by the plaintiff, Spargos Mining NL, set aside as an abuse of process.

The plaintiff had deposited with the defendant a sum of money pursuant to a contract for a loan and wanted its return.

Mr Anthony Temple, QC and Mr Aidan Christie for the plaintiff; Mr Bruce Coles, QC, for the defendant.

MR JUSTICE COLMAN said that the defendant had contended that the writ and statement of claim put forward a claim for money had and received where no such claim existed since the only claim avilable was under a contract of deposit, therefore the pleading was defective and leave to serve out should be set aside.

Although there was no direct authority on the point his Lordship did not consider that it had ever been open to a creditor to sue for an outstanding debt as money had and received.

The only way of advancing such a claim was and always had been to sue on the subsisting contract of loan or such other subsisting contract as gave rise to the debt.

However, even having regard to the need to be extremely careful not to implead foreign defendants without proper cause, the effect of the authorities was not to oblige his Lordship to exercise his discretion in favour of setting aside the order by reason of the defects in the writ, statement of claim and affidavit.

The proper course was to require the plaintiff to apply to amend its writ and statement of claim and the defendant's application was accordingly dismissed.

Solicitors: Norton Rose; Nicholson, Graham & Jones.

Prosecution not obliged to call all its witnesses

Regina v Taylor

The prosecution had a discretion as to the calling of witnesses and was not obliged to call witnesses for no purpose other than to assist the defence in its endeavour to destroy the prosecution's case.

The Court of Appeal, Criminal Division (Lord Justice Roch, Mr Justice Douglas Brown and Mr Justice Blofeld) so stated on November 24 when dismissing the appeal of David Taylor against his conviction on December 22, 1994 at Hull Crown Court (Judge Mettyear and a jury) of robbery and having a firearm with intent to commit an indictable offence.

LORD JUSTICE ROCH said that it was argued that the judge had wrongly refused to direct the prosecution to call or tender three witnesses whose statements had been included in the committal bundle.

Clearly the prosecution was entitled to exercise its discretion not to call those witnesses, who did not give direct evidence of the primary facts of the case and whose evidence the prosecution had grounds for regarding as unworthy of belief.

To call them would have been to proffer them merely to give the defence material with which to attack the credit of the witnesses on whom the prosecution relied.

The Crown's obligation was to make such witnesses available to the defence so that the defence could call them if it chose to do so.

The judge's power to direct the prosecution to call witnesses was also discretionary. There was no basis on which the exercise of the judge's discretion could be criticised.

Human Rights Law Report — Strasbourg

Patent appeal procedure valid

British-American Tobacco Company Ltd v The Netherlands

(Case No 46/1994/493/575)

Before R. Ryssdal, President and Judges F. Golcuklu, A. Spielmann, N. Valticos, S. K. Martens, I. Foighel, Sir John Freeland, D. Gotchev and P. Jambrek

Registrar H. Petzold

[Judgment November 20]

The European Court of Human Rights held unanimously that neither the organisational structure of the Appeal Division of the Patent Office nor the proceedings before that body constituted a violation of article 6.1 of the European Convention of Human Rights.

Article 6 of the Convention provides: "1 In the determination of his civil rights and obligations or of any criminal charge against him, everyone is entitled to a fair and public hearing within a reasonable time by an independent and impartial tribunal established by law..."

The applicant company, a limited liability company established under the law of the United Kingdom, applied to the Netherlands Patent Office with a view to obtaining a patent for an invention relating to cigarettes.

Following disagreement between the applicant company and the Patent Office as to the recognition of the priority invoked, the applicant company submitted two independent patent claims.

The Examination Division of the Patent Office considered that inappropriate and refused on that ground to grant the patent.

On May 14, 1986 the applicant company appealed against the decision to the Appeal Division of the Patent Office, whose members were officials in the Patent Office.

On August 29 1991, after holding two hearings in camera, the Appeal Division quashed the earlier decision on the ground that multiple independent claims had been accepted in the past.

However, it decided of its own motion that the invention lacked the required "inventive step" and upheld the refusal to grant the patent for that reason.

The British-American Tobacco Company Ltd applied to the European Commission of Human Rights on January 27, 1992. They alleged breaches of article 6.1 of the Convention and article 1 of Protocol No 1. The Commission declared the application admissible on October 15, 1993.

Having attempted unsuccessfully to secure a friendly settlement, the Commission drew up a report on May 19, 1994 in which it established the facts of the case and expressed the opinion that there had been a violation of article 6.1 (22 votes to 1) and that there had been no violation of article 1 of Protocol No 1 (unanimously).

In its judgment the European Court of Human Rights held as follows:

I Alleged violation of article 6.1

A Applicability

It was accepted by those appearing before the Court that the patent application proceedings in question concerned "the determination of civil rights and obligations". The Court saw no reason to differ and, accordingly, found that article 6.1 was applicable.

B Compliance with article 6.1

1 Appeal Division of the Patent Office

The Court recognised that in a domain as technical as that of the granting of patents there might be good reasons for opting for an adjudicatory body other than a court of the classic kind integrated within the standard judicial machinery of the country: see, among other authorities and mutatis mutandis, *Campbell and Fell v United Kingdom* (June 28, 1984, Series A No 80, p39, paragraph 76); and more recently, *McMichael v United Kingdom* (*The Times* February 24, 1995; Series A No 308, p53, paragraph 80).

However, the Court did not judge it necessary in the instant case to rule on the various complaints submitted under this head, having regard to its conclusion as to the applicant company's possible access to the ordinary civil courts in the event of the Appeal Division not being considered to meet the requirements of article 6.1.

2 Whether any possible failure to comply with article 6.1 was remedied by access to the civil courts

The Court noted its case law to the effect that if the proceedings before the Appeal Division of the Patent Office were considered not to comply with article 6.1 in one way or another, no violation of the Convention could be found if there was available to the applicant company a remedy ensuring the determination of its asserted civil right by an independent judicial body that did have sufficient jurisdiction and did itself provide the safeguards required by article 6.1.

Although no Netherlands civil court had ever held itself competent to review decisions of any division of the Patent Office regarding patent applications, the Court could not accept that the remedy offered by civil proceedings must for that reason be regarded as ineffective; it was equally true that no civil proceedings directed against a decision of the Appeal Division of the Patent Office had ever resulted in a ruling that the Appeal Division in fact offered sufficient procedural safeguards.

In that respect the present case was to be distinguished from that of *Van de Hurk v The Netherlands* (April 19, 1994, Series A No 288, pl8, paragraph 54) where the civil courts had actually held the administrative tribunal in question to afford sufficient safeguards.

Notwithstanding the arguments to the contrary put forward by the applicant company, the Court considered *Oerlemans v The Netherlands* (November 27, 1991, Series A No 219) as a pertinent precedent. That judgment had been grounded on the finding of well established principles of Netherlands law which were applicable in the specific case.

The applicant company had not convinced the Court that that conclusion had been based on an erroneous interpretation of Netherlands law and, therefore, saw no reason in the present case to revise its earlier finding as to the state of Netherlands law.

It followed, therefore, that the Court's finding as to Netherlands law related generally to all instances where the civil courts did not consider an administrative procedure to afford sufficient procedural safeguards.

Consequently, if after the decision of the Appeal Division the case had been brought by the applicant company before the civil courts, and if it had been argued that the Appeal Division was not a tribunal offering the safeguards required by article 6.1 of the Convention, the courts would as a matter of domestic law first have had to decide whether that argument was correct.

Should they have found that to be so, the civil courts would have had full jurisdiction to rule on the merits, that is, to decide whether the Appeal Division had been right to refuse to grant the patent applied for an to afford appropriate relief. Corroboration of that analysis was to be found in the case law of the domestic civil courts.

It was not for the Court to prejudge whether the Netherlands civil courts would have held the Appeal Division to fall short of the standards of article 6.1, which would entail that they had full jurisdiction on the merits.

Had the civil courts come to such a decision, a judicial remedy of the classic kind providing the safeguards required by article 6.1 would have been available to the applicant company, albeit subject to the condition under Netherlands law that they would only have access to the civil courts after having brought an appeal before the Appeal Division.

While, therefore, the applicant company could have submitted their claim to the civil courts for examination, they chose, for whatever reason, not to do so.

In those circumstances the Court could not find in the abstract that the remedies available to the applicant company under Netherlands law for vindicating their asserted right to a patent did not meet the requirements of article 6.1.

Accordingly, the Court found that there had been no violation of article 6.1.

II Alleged violation of article 13

The Court did not consider it necessary to rule on the applicant company's allegation of violation of article 13. The applicant company had not adduced any argument to the effect that a violation of article 13 might be found even in the absence of a finding of a violation of article 6.1. In any event, the requirements of article 13 were less strict than, and were here absorbed by those of article 6.1 (unanimously).

III Alleged violation of article 1 of Protocol No 1

In the Court's opinion, there was no call in the instant case to decide, as the Commission had done, whether or not the patent application lodged by the applicant company constituted a "possession" coming within the scope of the protection afforded by article 1 of Protocol No 1.

The complaint under this head, namely the denial of a judicial remedy, was in substance identical to that already examined and rejected in the context of article 6.1.

The Court therefore considered that no separate issue arose under article 1 of Protocol No 1 in relation to the matters complained of (unanimously).

LEGAL & PUBLIC NOTICES — 0171-782 7344

LEGAL NOTICES

DISCAIN ENGINEERING PLC
Registered number: 897888. Nature of business: Engineering and Allied Industries. Trade classification: 7. Date of appointment of administrative receivers: 23rd November 1995. Name of person appointing the administrative receivers: Midland Bank plc. Joint Administrative Receivers: P. Monack, FCA and J. Schapira, ACA (office holder nos: 2344 and 8784) of Leonard Curtis & Co, PO Box 653, 30 Eastbourne Terrace, 42nd Floor, London W2 6LF.

Collective Insurance Agency (Travel) Limited
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Collective Insurance Agency (Travel) Limited was struck off the Companies Register in September 1994 and were it not for its dissolution, it would now be entitled to receive payment of a sum in excess of £150,000, albeit allegedly in trust for or on behalf of a group of re-insurance companies who intend to apply to the Court to have the sum paid directly to them. Any existing creditors of the now dissolved company are invited to prove their claims in writing to the solicitors acting for the re-insurers and to state what objections they may have to such a payment being made without the former company of Collective Insurance Agency (Travel) Limited being reinstated on the Companies Register.
The solicitors acting for the said re-insurers are Messrs Belmont & Lowe, Henrietta House, 93 Tavistock Street, London EC1M 5QU. All correspondence should be marked for the attention of T. Wilzmann.

No. 66 of 1995
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
CHANCERY DIVISION
COMPANIES COURT
CARDIFF DISTRICT REGISTRY
IN THE MATTER OF WATERMARK GROUP plc
and
IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1986
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Petition was on 4th December 1995 presented to Her Majesty's High Court of Justice for the confirmation of the reduction of the share capital from £1,600,000 to £300,000 for the cancellation of the share premium account of the above named Company.
AND NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that the said Petition is directed to be heard by His Honour Judge Hywel Moseley Q.C. at The Law Courts, Cathays Park, Cardiff on Thursday 21st December 1995 at 10.30 a.m.
ANY creditor or shareholder of the said Company desiring to oppose the making of an Order for the confirmation of the said reduction of Share Capital should appear at the time of hearing in person or by Counsel for that purpose.
A copy of the said Petition will be furnished to any such person requiring the same by the undermentioned Solicitors on payment of the regulated charge for the same.
DATED 6th December 1995
Westlake Bell
16 Bedford Street, Covent Garden, London WC2E 9HF
Tel 0171 379 7266
Fax 0171 836 6117
Ref: LSB/46039/WB1-7219
Solicitors for the Company

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
CHANCERY DIVISION
NO 007264 OF 1995
IN THE MATTER OF SPRING RAM HOLDINGS PLC
AND
IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1985
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Petition was on the 24th November 1995 presented to Her Majesty's High Court of Justice, for the confirmation of the reduction of the Share Premium Account of the above named Company.
AND NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that the said Petition is directed to be heard before Mr Registrar Buckley at the Royal Courts of Justice, Strand, London EC2A 2LL on Wednesday the 20th day of December 1995 at 10.30 o'clock in the forenoon.
Any Creditor or Shareholder of the said Company desiring to oppose the making of an Order for the confirmation of the said reduction of Share Premium Account should appear at the time of hearing in person or by Counsel for that purpose.
A copy of the said Petition will be furnished to any such person requiring the same by the undermentioned Solicitors on payment of the regulated charge for the same.
Dated the 11th day of December 1995
Pinsent Curtis
41 Park Square, Leeds LS1 2NS
Solicitors for the above named Company
Ref. CJR

No 007176 of 1995
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
CHANCERY DIVISION
COMPANIES COURT
IN THE MATTER of CADENCE EUROPE LIMITED
and
IN THE MATTER of THE COMPANIES ACT 1985
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Petition was on the 21st November 1995 presented to Her Majesty's High Court of Justice for the confirmation for the reduction of the share capital of the above-named Company amounting to £2,333,874.
AND NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that the said Petition is directed to be heard before Mr Registrar Buckley at the Royal Courts of Justice, Strand, London on 20th December 1995.
ANY creditor or shareholder of the said Company desiring to oppose the making of an Order for the confirmation of the said reduction of share capital should appear at the time of the hearing in person or by Counsel for that purpose.
A copy of the said Petition will be furnished to any such person requiring the same by the undermentioned solicitors on payment of the regulated charge for the same payable this 7th day of December 1995
Garrett & Co (DCS)
7 Surrey Street,
London WC2R 2NN
Solicitors for the Company

FURNISS & COMPANY LTD
(In Members' Voluntary Liquidation)
Company Number: 22916
NOTICE TO CREDITORS. On 21 November 1995 the above company was placed into Members' Voluntary Liquidation and Mr John Roger Hill and Mr Martin Fishman of Arthur Andersen, Abbots House, Abbey Street, Reading RG1 3BD were appointed Joint Liquidators by the Members.
The Joint Liquidators give notice pursuant to Rule 4.182A of the Insolvency Rules 1986 that the creditors of the company must send details, in writing, of any claim against the company to John Roger Hill, Arthur Andersen, Abbots House, Abbey Street, Reading RG1 3BD by 15 January 1996.

The Joint Liquidators also give notice under the provision of Rule 4.182A(6) that on 15 January 1996 they intend to make a final return to creditors who have submitted claims by 15 January 1996 and that there will be no further distribution to creditors. The final return to creditors will be made without regard to the claim of any person in respect of a debt not already proved.
The company is able to pay all of its known creditors in full.
J.R. Hill, Joint Liquidator
Date 30th December 1995.

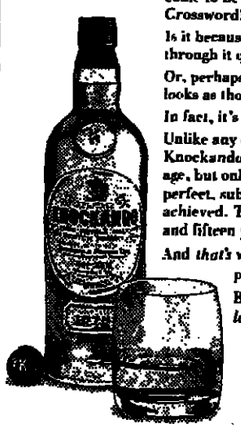
THE TIMES
GUIDE TO
THE SINGLE
EUROPEAN
MARKET

From jobs and taxation to transport and the law this comprehensive handbook gives you the complete background on what the Single European Market means to Britain.

£8.99 paperback

TIMES BOOKS
A division of HarperCollinsPublishers

MAKING KNOCKANDO IS A BIT LIKE DOING THE TIMES CROSSWORD.
IT'S IMPOSSIBLE TO SAY HOW LONG IT'S GOING TO TAKE.



How does a fine, single malt like Knockando come to be associated with The Times Crossword?
Is it because, like the Crossword, some get through it quicker than others?
Or, perhaps, because the word Knockando looks as though it should be followed by 'anag'?
In fact, it's none of these.
Unlike any other single malt whisky, Knockando is bottled not at a pre-determined age, but only when taste confirms that its perfect, subtly complex balance has been achieved. This can be anytime between twelve and fifteen years.
And *that's* why we felt it was the perfect partner for The Times Crossword.
Because it's impossible to say how *long* it's going to take.

KNOCKANDO
SPONSOR OF THE TIMES CROSSWORD CHAMPIONSHIP

Capitalisation, week's change

TRADING PERIOD: Settlement takes place five business days after the day of trade. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

BANKS

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
8,638.00	ABN-AMRO	2845½	– 78½	4.5	10.5
6,263.20	Abbey Nat	625	– 24	3.9	12.5
2,339.70	Allied Irish	360	+ 1	4.8	10.5
4,016.10	Aus New Z	290	– 3	6.5	..
15,294.40	Bank America†	4343½	+168½	..	..
3,294.20	Bank Scotland†	772	– 13	2.8	12.0
12,448.30	Barclays	768	– 22	3.7	10.5
2,282.20	Bk of Ireland†	480	+ 4	3.9	9.6
148.70	Cater Allen	450	+ 17	6.5	7.3
17,736.80	Citicorp	4565½	– 31½	..	..
186.60	Close Bros	934	+ 4	3.4	14.4
6,467.50	Commerzbk	2152½	+ 93½	3.6	..
39,447.60	Dai Ichi Kan Y	1265½	+ 28½	0.4	..
14,888.70	Deutsche Bk	3131½	+ 34½	2.4	..
133.00	Espirito Santo	651½	..	5.8	9.2
41,311.40	Fuji Bank Y	14284½	+ 52	0.4	..
221.10	General Acpt	453	..	6.2	14.9
358.90	Hambros†	808	+ 2	4.6	..
8,565.60	HSBC	996	+ 1	3.5	13.0
17,332.90	HSBC HK	979½	+ ½	3.6	12.7
268.20	Irish Perm	393	+ 28	3.1	9.1
24.50	Jarvis (L)	453	..	5.1	25.6
35.20	King Shaxson	137	..	8.2	10.6
11,421.00	Lloyds	670½	– 19½	3.9	13.3
8,324.50	Nat West Bk	563	+ 14	6.5	..
11,598.10	Nat West	866	– 6	4.3	10.2
125.00	Ottoman Bank	2500	..	8.0	3.4
22.40	Rea Brothers	48	+ 1	2.7	10.4
4,581.40	Rpl Bk Scot	567	– 7	3.6	12.6
2,012.80	Schroders	1333	..	1.3	18.0
501.80	Schroders NV	1140	+ 5	1.6	16.2
715.40	Singer & Fried	1035½	– ½	2.2	11.3
5,441.70	Stand Chart	561	– 53	2.0	14.1
6,219.90	TSB	406	– 5	3.6	14.2
27.70	Union	104	– 8	3.6	..
7,325.60	Wells Fargo	1142½	+ 497½	2.1	..
4,864.90	Westpac	2564½	– ½	5.1	..
23.00	Wintrust	268	..	3.3	15.3

BREWERIES

65.70	Ascot Hldgs	238	+ 1	..	0.5
6,284.80	Bass	715	+ 32	4.1	..
539.90	Boddington	444	+ 1	2.6	22.8
36.60	Burtonwd Brwt	176	– 3	3.8	17.0
38.30	Eldridge P 'A'	185	+ 11	3.2	..
29.90	Fuller Sm 'A'	414	+ 5	2.5	17.7
1,576.10	Greenalls Grp	533	– 2	3.4	..
266.70	Greene King	629	..	2.8	16.8
57.20	Hardy Hanse	286	– 2	4.2	13.4
3.50	Hawkins	155	..	4.5	16.9
95.50	Holt J	3119	..	2.2	16.7
204.10	Mansfield†	318	– 6	2.1	15.9
277.20	Marston Thmp	309	– 5	3.0	14.4
148.30	Morland	536	+ 3	2.8	..
8.50	Paramount	83	..	3.6	11.2
95.00	Pregnl Invs	665	..	4.4	13.8
6,719.00	SA Brewers†	2281½	+ 81½	1.6	30.4
3,650.40	Scot & Newc	586½	– 33½	4.0	15.8
	Scot & Newc PrP	3350	..	..	..
77.70	Tetley Cobleigh	195	– 21	1.8	31.6
369.80	Vaux Group	353	..	4.7	14.8
233.60	Wolverhampton JDt	640	+ 3	1.6	26.0
3,137.80	Whitbread†	651	– 36	4.0	16.1
365.40	Wolverhampton O	547	– 4	3.6	..
101.20	Yates Bros	305	– 4	4.3	17.0
12.60	Young 'A'†	438	..	4.3	17.7

BUILDING & CONSTRUCT

54.20	Abbey	140	..	4.7	9.3
63.00	Allen	195	+ 2	3.9	14.3
392.60	Amec†	100	+ 1	3.8	21.1
38.80	Andrews, Sykes	271	– 2	..	..
1660.30	Ashtead†	178	– 6	1.9	17.4
15.30	Avonside	35	– 4	11.8	5.6
2.62	Bailey (Bert) Con	25	..	5.2	6.1
16.70	Barcon	36	+ 1	..	..
416.70	Barratt Devs	228	..	4.1	14.1
463.30	Bazeley Homes	165	– 3	3.9	12.6
250.40	Bellway	254	– 1	3.9	13.0
7.67	Bellwinch	17	..	1.5	9.1
374.30	Berkeley Gp	483	+ 4	2.0	15.6
39.60	Bell Bros	177	..	3.9	6.2
92.10	Bovis (Henry)	193	– 5	3.7	10.0
19.60	Brandon Hire	90	..	3.2	16.9
5.53	Britannia Grp	26	+ 1	7.7	5.1
4.48	Br Bldg & Eng	46	..	25.0	5.5
293.60	Bryant	105	+ 2	6.0	9.5
47.80	CALA	111	..	3.6	10.7
2.88	Campbell & Ann	20	– 1	..	15.9
5.03	Clarke T	49	..	10.4	17.6
57.30	Costain	72	– 2	..	..
57.30	Countryside	75	..	7.0	10.7
91.40	Cred Nicholson	62	– 3	4.0	8.7
14.40	Cussons	61	..	5.9	7.1
16.20	Eve Group	165	– 30	6.9	8.8
16.90	Galliford	19	..	6.6	38.6
74.50	Gleeson (M.J.)	73½	..	..	..
4.62	Green (Ernest)	60	– 1	10.6	26.1
71.50	Hawtock Evcn†	272	..	1.5	22.9
382.00	Hawdon-Steel†	138	+ 1	2.6	14.7
61.60	Higgs & Hill	93	..	3.4	79.0
3.96	Howard Hldgs	15	..	6.7	17.5
9.83	Jarvis	33½	..	..	..
75.00	Keller	134	+ 1	3.6	13.0
117.00	Laing (J)	255	..	4.4	31.5
41.40	Laing (J) 'A' Cv Pf	103	..	7.8	..
6.77	Levitt (T.)	17	– 8½	..	..
46.50	Maunders (J)	185	..	3.8	9.9
93.30	McAlpine (A)	133	+ 1	5.6	15.4
65.60	McCarthy & S	66½	– ½	3.9	..
24.90	Morgan Sindall	78	– 1	1.4	..
82.10	Morrison Cons	129	..	3.1	12.0
99.60	Mowlem (J)	57	– 3	4.4	28.4
212.80	Persimmon	162	+ 1	6.5	12.6
30.80	Pochin	100	..	2.0	12.2
86.70	Prowting†	111	– 1	4.3	14.8
30.10	Raine Ind	16	– 1	3.1	13.3
5.05	Secure Retire	49	..	2.6	9.3
279.10	Redrow	126	..	3.1	11.7
38.60	Sheriff Hldgs	345	..	2.3	13.6
4.54	Sharco	72	– 5	6.9	11.0
114.00	Speyside†	353	+ 1	1.9	22.5
44.10	Tay Homes	151	+ 2	5.8	10.4
466.10	Taylor Woodrw	118	+ 3	2.4	22.5
149.70	Tilbury Douglas	443	..	6.3	15.1
5.31	Tomkins	32	..	5.1	13.7
8.51	Tomkinsonwd	10	..	..	..
7.27	Try Group	10½	+ ½	6.0	14.7
24.50	Vibroplant†	74	– ½	6.8	5.6
64.10	Wakefield	103	– 2	5.5	9.4
24.20	Ward Hldgs	46	..	4.1	10.3
117.20	Westbury†	176	– 7	4.3	13.0
14.80	Wiggins	3	..	..	20.6
300.50	Wilcon (C)	152	..	3.7	11.3
324.10	Wilson Bowdn	347	..	3.6	12.7
469.60	Wimpey G	130	..	5.3	18.9

BUSINESS SERVICES

6.69	Anglo Utd	8½	..	..	..
36.30	Aqa Hsbs	100	+ 15	..	..
3.44	Bailey (CH)	6½	..	..	..
9.98	Black Arrow†	80	+ 3	9.7	7.0
3.61	Br Bloodstock	88	..	..	29.4
2.15	Calec Gp	3½	..	..	..
2.49	Chemex	6½	..	2.0	19.5
16.00	Circle	155	..	7.3	..
75.80	Clayton	257	– 3	1.4	17.6
5.15	Headway	32	..	2.1	29.1
99.00	Hoskyns	416	..	2.7	15.9
67.40	Logica	1022	– 28	0.2	11.5
23.70	Nalco Gp	134	– 5	3.8	15.5
59.30	Photo-Me†	162	..	3.8	14.2
18.20	Plant & Gen†	57	– 1	5.9	6.2
1.85	Redrow	1½	..	..	..
169.50	Shanks & McEwan†	92	– 5½	4.6	19.4
41.00	Sinclair (Wm)	186	..	4.1	12.8
1,246.20	Waste Mgt Int	344	+ 14	..	..
45.20	Waste Recyg	136	+ 9	1.1	29.5

CHEMICALS

479.70	Albright & Wil	153	– 4	4.9	16.1
671.00	Allied Colloids	126	– 2	2.5	19.2
32.60	Amber Ind†	208	..	3.4	13.8
31.10	Ansbacher, Gp	72	+ ½	2.3	20.6
6,468.90	BASF Dkt	2145½	+ 93½	..	..
4,260.50	BOC†	892	+ 5	3.8	17.2
429.70	BTP	362	+ 8	5.3	15.0
11,613.70	Bayer Dkt50	2170½	+ 93½	3.4	..
107.20	Bogden	148	– 2	..	..
46.00	Brent Chems	99	– 7	5.9	19.9
443.40	Br Vita	282	– 2	4.9	12.9
68.50	Cerberg (M)	230	– 3	4.2	14.8
1,539.00	Courtaulds†	388	– 12½	5.1	17.4
432.90	Croda	325	+ 9	3.5	14.2
31.00	Dooltex	214	..	3.4	13.9
246.50	Ellis & Everard	250	– 6	4.2	13.6
33.30	Euro Colourt	86	– ½	2.8	21.0
20.70	Gibbon	205	– 9	4.9	16.0
142.60	Hickson	81	– 9	6.4	7.7
10,092.90	Hoechst	2170½	+ 3½	3.0	..
187.10	Holliday Chem	172	– 1	3.6	12.2
5,379.50	ICI	745	– 21	4.8	14.2
361.50	Inspec	328	– 3	1.8	22.9
369.80	Kalon	110	+ 3	5.2	12.5
1,176.70	Laporte	610	– 17½	4.7	12.5
26.70	Mfld	80	+ 1½	3.5	14.3
114.60	Marden	288	– 1	4.9	13.0
8.92	Melrolpol	57	– 1	5.1	13.8
22,039.50	Monsedon	414	+ 14½	5.0	18.3
91.00	Porvair	370	..	1.7	27.1
517.30	Scapa†	247	– 1	3.6	15.5
15.30	Sedcole Speclst	27	..	2.2	33.3
9,133.40	Tatochi Chem	1044½	+ 67½	0.9	13.7
59.00	Wellington Hldg	150	..	3.4	19.1
74.20	Wernhlme H	180	– 3	2.8	16.8
122.30	Yorks Chem	201	– 7	4.0	13.1
314.00	Yule Catto	310	..	3.0	16.4

DISTRIBUTORS

31.00	ABI Lstd	94	..	6.8	9.7
20.40	Adam & Harvey†	475	– 20	5.2	6.3
5.84	Alexandrs	14½	+ 1	6.9	9.0
60.50	Applegrnd	91	..	8.2	9.8
9.19	Ass Br Eng	3½	..	2.1	26.5
146.00	BSS Group	555	– 10	4.5	15.7
53.50	Bandt	38	..	..	..
6.20	Bentley Pwrs	17½	+ 1	9.6	..
1.25	Bogod 'A'	431	– 4	3.9	16.5
198.70	Bssmnsr	431	– 4	3.9	16.5
4.81	Bridgend Gpt	17½	+ ½	1.4	..
19.30	Brit Fibregs	91	..	4.9	12.3
8.25	Calflyer	250	– 3	5.9	16.9
10.30	Central Mtr	75	+ 5	4.8	20.4
25.20	Cook (DC)	238	+ 2½	3.6	6.5
477.40	Cpuld	356	+ 17	4.0	12.8
31.00	Dag Motors	128	..	7.0	10.6
23.20	Dennels B	104	+ 1	1.9	11.1
226.10	Diplomat	408	– 16	4.4	..
1,475.60	Electrocomponts†	348	+ 6	2.1	22.7
138.20	Exwells Elec	214	+ 2	2.2	16.2
35.30	Farnbrdsfer	72	+ 1	2.8	16.5
33.10	European Mk	69	+ 1	6.7	8.3
92.10	Evans Halshaw	207	+ 4	6.8	8.8
953.40	Farnell Elect	689	+ 15	1.8	20.3
10.20	Fitz Indstrs	66	..	6.2	10.8
10.10	Gardner	18½	– ½	5.5	8.1
9.97	Glenchewton	33	– 3½	1.1	..
7.91	Gowings	36	..	3.3	14.3
21.90	Harris (Philip)	201	+ 15	4.6	12.6
29.00	Headlam	200	+ 3	2.6	17.5
263.00	Hicks	499	– 1	3.6	12.3
4.15	Holdrns Tech	134	..	5.6	25.5
61.20	ISA Intl	153	+ 3	1.3	16.7
1,090.30	Inchcape†	2081½	– 28½	3.1	18.7
6.40	Jacks (Wm)	60	..	1.5	11.4
309.90	Kwik-Fit	179	– 2	3.6	25.0
330.00	Lex Service	292	+ 1	6.2	15.6
29.10	Lookers	149	..	6.4	8.2
19.60	Maleya Grp	12	+ ½	5.0	16.2
51.20	Micklewood	81½	..	0.7	13.5
19.80	Mobiletex	37	..	..	5.7
51.50	Norman	485	– 15	1.9	16.9
41.60	Northumber	245	– 7	0.9	19.6
12.30	PCT	137	..	7.0	9.8
105.20	Pendragon	274	+ 7	3.8	14.3
37.70	Perry Gp	148	– 7	6.4	11.2
32.30	Quicks Group	140	..	5.1	11.9
16.50	RSA	185	– 3	2.7	22.0
5.31	Rasco	3	..	..	..
25.10	Rassow	56	+ 3½	2.8	11.4
5.17	Ross Gp	9	..	..	..
55.40	SEP Indl	61½	+ 2½	2.4	20.5
28.50	Saffire	11	+ 1	..	6.2
31.60	TLS	70	+ 2	3.3	11.9
102.00	Time Products†	250	– 1	4.6	14.6
127.60	Vardy (Reg)	275	..	2.6	17.5
46.50	Wholesale Fbc	325	..	4.3	20.2
63.00	Wickhart	58	– 2	1.7	13.8
85.00	Wyko	115	..	3.8	..
19.10	Young (H)	115	+ 12	4.3	..

DIVERSIFIED INDUSTRIALS

98.90	Advnst	120	– 5½	6.1	9.6
480.50	Amalgamts	393	+ 10	1.9	13.8
16,494.20	Boland Hill	905	+ 15	2.7	30.9
12,123.80	BTR	321½	– 15½	5.4	13.9
16,943.20	BATS	548½	– 9½	5.5	11.5
286.50	Berisford Intl	169	+ 17	2.0	..
181.30	Bibby (J) †	116	+ 1	6.2	..
1,335.20	Brantey Inv	49¾	..	8.7	2.7
696.90	Charter	602	+ 10	3.8	13.0
2,121.60	Cookson	312	+ 6	2.9	19.6
53.10	Dampson Hdg	134	+ 3½	3.3	16.5
9,605.30	Hanson	189	+ 4	6.1	10.2
1,009.50	Hanson Cnsldt†	144	+ 1	7.8	15.3
13,605.20	Hutch Whamp	375½	+ 3	2.7	19.9
3,046.10	Jardine Math	624	+ 20½	3.9	8.4
226.10	Diplomat	408	– 16	4.4	..
4.86	Jourdan (T) †	27	+ ½	5.6	7.3
1,367.20	Lonrho	176	+ 8	3.2	24.3
104.50	McLeod Russell	171	+ 1	4.7	..
38.70	Porter Chadbrn	41	..	..	14.0
384.00	Powell Duffryn	446	+ 12	7.0	10.1
34.40	Ropner	147	– 1	7.0	10.1
3,445.10	Slme Darby†	163	+ 1	2.9	14.9
200.00	Stenhouse	66	..	6.2	10.8
203.70	Stanley†	201	– 6	5.3	13.7
3,109.90	Tomkins	262	– 3	4.1	14.6
317.80	Trafalgar H	79½	+ 5½	4.2	..
57.40	Unidare	395	..	7.1	..
96.30	Wardle Storeys†	81	..	6.2	10.5
467.70	Wassall	139	– 14	2.4	13.6
62.50	Whitecroft	188	..	3.0	14.8
1,885.00	Williams Hldg	325	..	5.3	15.1

ELECTRICITY

1,759.80	East Midlands	887	– 11	4.1	12.0
2,435.00	Eastern Gp	974	..	3.6	13.0
1,769.50	London Elec	891	– 32	4.6	10.5
1,105.00	Manweb	1026	– 3	3.9	14.0
1,267.90	Midlands	1079	– 34	4.5	10.3
5,466.70	National Power†	459	– 5	4.5	9.4
6,076.70	Nat Power PrPf†	168	– 6	4.4	9.8
917.80	Northern Elec	928	– 6	4.8	8.7
625.70	Ntrn Ireland	492	– 17	4.2	9.4
1,594.80	Norweb	1021	– 4	3.5	14.5
3,816.80	PowerGen†	525	– 10	4.0	9.6
1,349.90	PowerGen (F/PI)	214	– 7	3.9	11.7
1,371.80	Hydro-Elec	357	+ 2	4.9	10.4
3,464.90	Scottish Power	388	– 5	4.9	10.7
1,061.40	Seebourn	639	– 3	2.8	10.7
1,094.80	Sth Wales	1169	+ 61	3.9	12.0
2,547.10	Southern Elec	933	+ 14	4.8	10.2
1,632.70	Yorkshire Elec	854	– 14	4.3	11.1

ELECTRONIC & ELECT

110.00	Acal	570	+ 46	1.7	20.6
201.30	Acorn Comp	224	+ 76	..	..
99.00	Admiral	798	..	1.3	30.9
126.00	Alba	388	+ 16	2.6	17.3
278.10	Amstrad	2381½	– 24½	1.3	..
26.00	Arlen	35	+ 1	2.1	12.1
371.90	Aslec	1210½	– 1	1.3	16.7
136.50	Aslan	515	+ 18	0.8	22.9
966.70	BICC	273	– 12	5.7	16.1
24.90	Beales Hunter	235	..	5.4	12.6
138.20	Black	450	+ 2	3.7	..
824.30	Bowthorpe†	426	– 3	2.7	19.4
6.57	Bulgo (AF) 'A'	25½	– 1½	2.0	10.0
25.10	CMC Micro	135	..	5.6	14.1
24.60	Chemrel Hldgs	32	– 1	6.1	7.6
57.00	Chloride†	229½	+ ½	1.8	30.3
13.30	Clarkshaw	72	– 3	5.5	12.0
116.20	Cray Elect	49	..	..	6.4
90.20	Crtchley	631	+ 8	1.9	21.5
1,056.00	Dasta Sy Sys	532	– 11	0.5	30.6
587.10	Delta	393	+ 19	5.0	13.5
107.60	Diamnds	483	..	3.1	13.2
95.60	Dowding Mills	64	..	5.4	17.0
158.40	Duck	2475	+ 25	0.7	32.5
2,018.00	Electrolux 'B'	2634½	+ 34½	4.3	4.3
33.60	Emess	31½	..	3.8	13.1
12,566.70	Ericsson 'B'	1437½	– 109½	..	..
36.00	Eurocorp	74	..	3.6	14.8
510.70	Exmithorn	570	+ 2	1.4	25.8
428.60	Fairey Group	524	+ 1	1.7	22.0
199.40	Filtronic Com	475	+ 9	0.2	76.0
83.40	Forward Tec	513	+ 8	1.4	19.2
31.40	Fareard Tech	91	+ 1	3.4	12.7
8,647.60	GEC	314	+ 2	4.6	14.5
92.70	Grasby	128	..	6.4	11.7
39.30	Ind Control	97	– 9	4.6	19.1
11.50	Inlec	39	..	5.1	15.3
185.00	Kenwood App	231	– 7	5.4	10.3
9.80	Nade	101	..	..	..
3.06	LPA Ind	34	..	6.2	24.2
90.70	MTL Inst	280	+ 2	2.1	15.6
125.00	Marconi Gn	2450	+ 34	2.3	16.5
38.30	Microvitec	52	– ½	1.9	17.5
458.20	Misys	433	+ 25	..	..
301.10	Oxford Inst	407	– 9	1.8	16.1
7.06	Parity Systems†	18	+ 17	2.8	19.6
121.60	Pedal	101	..	4.2	16.3
8,470.20	Philips Lmp nv	2503½	– 31½	2.0	9.9
20.70	Pilco	216	– 5	2.9	13.5
14.20	Pilco 'A' Vtg	206	– 5	3.8	12.9
6.77	Plasmec	141	– 2	4.0	11.3
53.80	Pressac	145	– 5	3.8	..
14.70	Prestwich	36	+ 1	..	14.2
187.60	Pulsn	805	+ 12	0.6	34.0
5.62	Quadrant Grp	15	..	2.1	41.9
770.00	Racal Elect	276	+ 23	2.4	21.1
15.00	Redamect	31	..	3.4	17.9
96.60	Rainford	405	– 2	0.6	22.7
152.30	Rotork	372	– 8	2.4	13.4
4.73	Scantronic	9	..	..	..
33.50	Silverstone	53	..	3.5	14.1
3.43	Soundtrac	3	..	9.2	9.8
59.80	Stowes	240	+ 14	2.3	16.8
1.48	TDS Circuits	7	..	..	..
4,545.80	TDK	3468½	+ 78½	0.9	..
20.80	Tadpole Tech	79	..	..	..
127.50	Telemetrix	139	– 5	1.1	19.8
30.00	TR	93	– 5	3.9	10.9
300.60	Telspec	648	+ 8	0.5	53.0
32.00	Thorpe PW	348	+ 8	2.9	15.1
287.90	TLG	161	– 2½	1.9	17.4
2.21	Total Systems	32	..	..	22.9
102.00	Tunstall	310	..	1.8	..
158.80	Unitech	514	– 7	1.8	18.9
28.40	Vanity	42	– 1	2.0	12.1
117.70	Votec	425	– 5	5.8	15.0
5.24	Walkabourne	33	+ 1	..	3.2
54.20	Wilcom	183	+ 1	1.0	..

ENGINEERING

46.30	AIM	337	– 3	1.8	..
307.20	APVT	70	– 11	5.5	..
72.50	ASW	67	– 15	9.1	4.2
17.10	Acro Humble	34	..	..	..
82.80	Aeka	149	– 1	1.7	..
62.30	Ash & Lacy	168	+ 3	4.8	11.6
67.10	Atlas Equip	646	+ 2	4.3	22.6
12.50	Ayrshire Metal	126	+ 4	4.8	12.5
74.40	Bell Group	102	+ 1	4.9	13.0
257.10	Babcock	152	+ 1	3.2	..
68.40	BHT	143	..	6.4	13.8
156.20	Baynes (Charles)	191	+ 2	2.7	17.5
11.80	Beaufort	26	– 1	3.8	12.1
1.52	Bilton	6	..	..	..
240.20	Bodycote†	412	+ 5	1.8	21.0
1.68	Booth Inds	42	+ 1	..	..
13.90	Bracknell	17½	+ ½	4.2	17.0
53.00	Brady 'A'	50	..	3.0	15.8
1,184.20	Johnson & Fr	1184	+ 12	3.0	15.8
12.80	Jones Stroms	50	+ 1	..	..
18.30	Kelsey Ind	590	+ 12	3.4	15.0
27.40	Lincat	268	..	3.6	14.2

ENGINEERING, VEHICLES

6.01	AAF Inds	35	+ 1	..	..
24.10	Ashtead Stressel	260	..	3.5	5.6
15.50	Armourd	42	– ½	5.9	13.0
134.50	Avon Rubber	504	– 20	4.5	..
1,121.40	BBA	271	– 4½	2.2	..
164.40	BSG†	56	– 2½	7.1	11.6
6.44	Benson Group	45	+ 1	3.3	..
50.40	Bentham	300	– 5	2.5	16.5
11.90	Bousted	18	..	7.1	..
32.10	Cavendish	71½	+ ½	3.1	7.5
39.90	CSR	214	– 1	2.1	16.1
72.50	Test Tech	456	..	1.9	17.3
2,788.50	GKN	799	– 10	3.5	16.3
22,826.20	General Mtr	3212½	+ 12½	2.4	..
12,294.40	Honda Motor	1261	+ 71½	0.7	..
540.30	Lead	381	– 23	3.8	14.5
8.10	Lindex	19	..	..	..
1,556.00	Lucas†	433	+ 25	..	16
208.90	Mayflower	95½	– 1½	2.2	24.9
45.00	Syltone	168	+ 2	3.6	17.5
676.20	T & N	179	+ 36	2.7	18.9
179.90	Trinity Hldgs	350	..	2.7	18.9

FOOD MANUFACTURERS

3,252.50	AB Food	725	+ 4	3.0	13.0
748.50	Assocs & Hutch	368	+ 2	4.2	10.2
338.20	Albert Fisher†	41	– 1	11.9	11.6
24.20	Baxks (S C)	278	+ 1	4.5	14.1
67.00	Barr (A6)	340	..	2.9	15.2
13.20	Bercains Corp	26	..	..	..
768.30	Booker†	341	– 17	8.3	17.3
19.80	Bothwick	34	– 1	4.9	34.2
40.50	CPL Aromas	372	+ 26	1.4	23.1
5,405.90	Cadbury-Schw	545½	– 7½	3.6	19.6
22.30	Carr, Maling	318	+ 3	3.4	..
67.10	Carughan	108	+ 3	2.8	13.2
27.40	Chrysalis	179	+ 4	5.6	25.0
1,112.30	Dalgety	385	– 6	7.1	11.6
4.48	Daniels Sr	45

RESULTS AND STATISTICS

TODAY

Interims: Carclo Engineering, Court Cavendish, Drew Scientific, Dunedin Enterprise Inv Trust, Firstbus, Greene King, Kenwood Appliances, Pelican Group, Prior, Reliance Security Group, Martin Shelton Group, VTech Holdings, Wynnstay Properties. **Finals:** Airtours, Allders, API, Dwyer Estates, Electronic Data Processing, Greencore Group, Hardys & Hansons, Hawtin, Invesco Recovery Trust, Johnson & Firth Brown, Richards, Whessoe. **Economic statistics:** Producer prices (November).

TOMORROW

Interims: Baring Emerging Europe, Berkeley Group, British Land, Cray Electronics, Creighton's Naturally, Halma, Northern Electric, Oceana Consolidated, Pillar Property Investments, Precoat International, Schroder UK Growth, Southend Property Hldgs, Stewart & Wight. **Finals:** Bradstock Group, Dunedin Smaller Companies Inv Trust, Dunedin Worldwide Inv Trust, Eurocopy, Hunters Armley, Sheriff Holdings, Slimma, Stakis, Titon Holdings, Turkey Trust, Vaux Group. **Economic statistics:** Construction: new orders (October).

WEDNESDAY

Interims: Birkby, HP Bulmer Holdings, Chubb Security, East Midlands Electricity, ERF (Holdings), First Technology, Hamlet Group, MFI Furniture, Ovoca Resources, David S Smith, Stirling Group, Worthington Group. **Finals:** Acatos & Hutcheson, Apollo Metals, Archer Group, Baggeridge Brick, Chemring Group, Countryside Properties, Grainger Trust, New Zealand Inv Trust, Widney. **Economic statistics:** Retail sales (November), unemployment (November), average earnings (October), unit wage costs (October), Treasury monthly monetary meeting.

THURSDAY

Interims: Albrighton, Asda Group, Bristol Water Hldgs, CRT Group, Eastern Electricity, Ensor Holdings, Five Arrows Currency Fund, Inner Workings Group, London Electricity, London Merchant Secs, MS International, PhoneLink, Platignum, Scottish Hydro-Electric, Southern Electric, Southern Water, Videologic Group, Welsh Industrial Inv Trust. **Finals:** Care UK, Daily Mail & General Trust, Golden Rose Communications, Intercare Group, M&G Group, Securicor Group, SEP Industrial Hldgs, CA Sperati. **Economic statistics:** Machine tools (October), retail prices index (November), final results of June census of agriculture and horticulture for England (June 1994).

FRIDAY

Interims: Abtrust New Dawn Inv Trust, Eliza Tinsley, Forminster, King & Shaxson Holdings, Meconic, Moorgate Smaller Companies Inv, TR Technology, Yorkshire Electricity. **Finals:** Barcom, First Russian Frontiers, Minstergate, Trafalgar House. **Economic statistics:** Confederation of British Industry monthly trends inquiry (December).

COMPANIES  PHILIP PANGALOS

Airtours guide to travel's woes

AIRTOURS: The UK's second largest tour operator will today unveil full-year figures, providing precise evidence of the damage done as holiday groups continue to discount heavily in an intensely competitive market.

The long hot summer in the UK encouraged holidaymakers to stay at home, while lack of consumer confidence and an expectation of sizeable discounts on holidays took a further toll on holiday companies. Most had to cut prices and suffer losses on unsold holidays as competition intensified. The adverse climate forced Airtours to issue a warning in August that profits for the year to September 30 could be down by as much as 25 per cent.

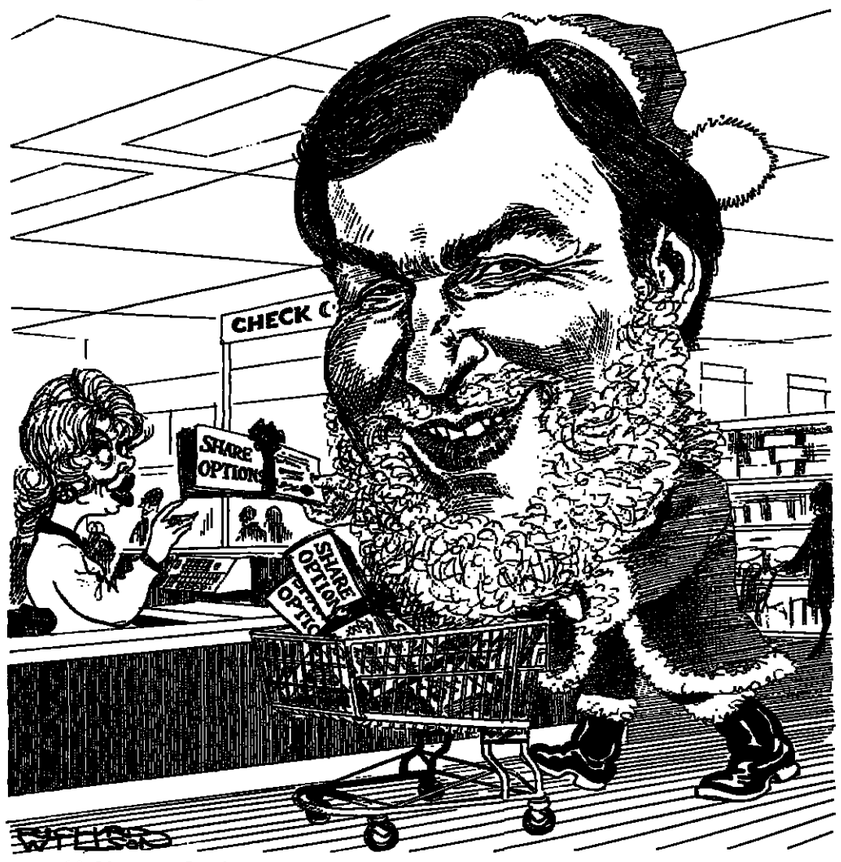
BZW expects final pre-tax profits to fall to about £54.4 million (£75.3 million), though a maintained dividend of 12p is forecast. Market forecasts range from £54 million to £61 million.

With the market well down year-on-year, attention will focus on current trading and prospects ahead of the key post-Christmas booking period which will set the tone for the rest of the year. Analysts will want to know if the industry has taken out enough capacity to restore margins.

ALLDERS: The department store and duty free group will provide a clearer picture of the state of consumer confidence in the run-up to the Christmas trading period when it reports full-year figures today.

The airport duty free shops should show improved trading, but weakness in high street stores will cause profits to slip back. Morgan Stanley, the American securities house, has pencilled in a drop in final pre-tax profits to £19 million, excluding a £4.5 million rate rebate, compared with £25.4 million last time. A dividend of 7p (6.7p) is predicted.

ASDA GROUP: Strong sales growth in the face of the continuing supermarket price war is expected to help Archie Norman, Asda's chief executive, to deliver an impressive advance in first-half profits on Thursday. There should be evidence that the steps taken by Mr Norman to tackle the Net Book Agreement and drugs companies, to allow lower prices on books and certain non-prescription medicines, are reaping rewards.



Archie Norman of Asda, who has extended share options among staff, reports on Thursday

Store openings and better sales growth than competitors will combine to fuel a jump in first-half pre-tax profits to £132 million (£108.7 million), according to Kleinwort Benson, with an interim dividend of 0.7p (0.6p) predicted.

Market forecasts range from £126 million to £135 million. Sales growth could top 10 per cent, with 7.5 per cent like-for-like growth predicted, including 2 per cent inflation. Gross margins will have been eroded in order to drive sales volumes forward, but Asda is expected to have seen productivity gains.

Attention will focus on current trading and prospects and any comments Mr Norman may make about the competitive environment in the run-up to Christmas. Having restored Asda's fortunes and pushed for employee share options, there is talk that he may now have his sights on Westminster, with ambitions to become a Conservative MP.

CHUBB SECURITY: A slowdown in construction in the UK and Australia and depressed housing markets are expected to put the brakes on growth at Chubb Security, the locks to electronic security group.

Paul Morland at NatWest Securities expects first-half pre-tax profits, due on Wednesday, to climb to £43.2 million (£38.2 million), with an interim dividend of 2.6p (2.3p) predicted.

Attention, however, is likely to focus on sales growth. Many analysts are looking for 5.2 per cent, but NatWest fears that interim sales growth could have slowed to under 5 per cent, possibly as low as 4 per cent.

MFI: The kitchen furniture group, which is seen by some as a barometer for the retail sector, has already said that sales in the first 19 weeks were down by about 3.5 per cent on a like-for-like basis.

The market therefore expects a drop in Wednesday's interim profits. NatWest Securities predicts first-half pre-tax profits will fall to £24.3 million (£29 million), although an interim dividend of 1.6p (1.5p) is forecast.

LONDON ELECTRICITY: NatWest expects first-half pre-tax profits, due on Thursday, to climb to £79.6 million (£52.3 million), with an interim dividend of 11.4p (9.5p) predicted. Market forecasts range from £74 million to £85 million.

SOUTHERN WATER: UBS expects interim pre-tax profits, due on Thursday, to rise to £80 million (£70.8 million), with a dividend of 9.8p (8.45p) predicted. Market forecasts range from £75 million to £83 million.

DAVID S SMITH: The packaging group should fare better than many others in its downtrodden sector in the wake of warnings from the likes of Rexam. Credit Lyonnais Laing has pencilled in pre-tax interim profits, due on Wednesday, of £58 million (£40.4 million), with an interim dividend of 2.3p (2.1p).

TRAFALGAR HOUSE: A string of warnings has preceded what is widely expected to be a deep slide into the red when the embattled shipping, engineering and construction conglomerate reports finals on Friday.

The figures will reveal a "kitchen sink job" after a dire year, with Trafalgar's results set to provide details of write-offs on its construction side and on the Cunard cruise liner business.

UBS expects losses of £125 million (£45.6 million profit) and no dividend (1p). Loss forecasts range from £75 million to £199 million.

ECONOMIC OUTLOOK

Close watch on Clarke

This week will revolve around Wednesday's monetary meeting between Kenneth Clarke, the Chancellor, and Eddie George, Governor of the Bank of England. The markets had rallied sharply after the Budget on hopes of a rate cut emerging from the meeting, but Mr George strongly suggested last Thursday that he would oppose any such request from Mr Clarke.

In this connection, today's testimony to the Treasury Select Committee by the Chief Secretary to the Treasury and the Chancellor's testimony — on the afternoon of the monetary meeting — will be closely watched by the markets.

Today, November producer prices figures are published. The consensus City forecast for input prices, compiled by MMS International, is a rise of 0.1 per cent, taking the year-on-year rate down to 6.7 per cent from 7.8 per cent in October. Output prices are expected to rise by 0.2 per cent, shaving the annual rate from 4.6 to 4.5 per cent.

On Thursday, the November retail prices indices are published. Headline inflation is expected to rise by 0.1 per cent, leaving the annual rate unchanged at 3.2 per cent. The rate of underlying inflation is predicted to be unchanged at 2.9 per cent, while RPIY, which excludes mortgage interest and indirect taxes, is forecast to rise from 2.4 to 2.5 per cent.

Wednesday sees unemployment figures for November, average earnings and unit labour costs for October, and retail sales for November. Unemployment is expected to fall by about 5,000 and average earnings growth to stay at 3.25 per cent. Retail sales are predicted to rise by 0.4 per cent, rebounding after October's 0.1 per cent fall. New construction orders for October are published tomorrow and the CBI's monthly trends survey on Friday.

As the interest rate debate rages in Britain, there will also be heavy focus on Thursday's meeting of the Bundesbank's policy-making council, the last this year.

JANET BUSH

SUNDAY TIPS

The Sunday Times: **Buy** Aromascan, Asda, Fenchurch, Argos; **Sell** Airtours. *The Sunday Telegraph*: **Buy** Laporte, Bardon, Melrose Energy, Reunion Mining. *The Observer*: **Buy** Bass, Proudfoot. *Independent On Sunday*: **Buy** T&S Stores, Exco, Flomerics; **Sell** Marimastat, Evans Halshaw, Reed International. *The Mail on Sunday*: **Buy** Orbis, VTR, Cairn Energy.

Irish Exchange cuts link

THE Irish Stock Exchange officially ends its 200-year-old association with the London Stock Exchange today.

The splitting of the two exchanges follows three years of negotiations and several missed deadlines. It is the result of a European Union investment services directive that requires all European countries to have a statutory authority responsible for the stock market. The central bank will assume that role in Ireland.

Otherwise it will be business as usual as the Irish exchange plans to follow the same rules and requirements as the London Stock Exchange.

Dublin has also negotiated a new concept of dual primary listing, which will allow Irish companies listed on both exchanges at the time of separation to have full primary listings on each exchange.

The split comes after a bumper year for Irish shares. The ISEQ index of Irish shares has risen by more than 20 per cent in 1995.

Pet City sparkles on AIM debut

BY PHILIP PANGALOS

PET CITY, the pet superstore group, helped to increase the new money raised on the Alternative Investment Market (AIM) for smaller and growing companies to £76.9 million.

The number of companies traded on the market rose to 114, compared with ten listed when the market started on June 19. Capitalisation increased to £2.22 billion.

David Abrahams, a dealer at Winterflood Securities, said that there was continued good volume in Trocadero, the leisure complex that was spun off by Burford Holdings, although last week's star performers were Flomerics and Pet City.

Shares in Flomerics, a specialist engineer that designs heat-flow systems, surged to 205p, compared with an offer price of 130p, while Pet City made a sparkling debut on Thursday.

Pet City, which raised £19.3 million after costs, saw its shares advance to 358p at one stage, before settling at 355p, giving a 55p premium over the 300p placing price.

The company, which has 35 out-of-town superstores, hopes to open 17 stores this financial year and has ambitious plans to reach 300 by 2003.

The next hot stock could be PolyMASC Pharmaceuticals, a biopharmaceutical company that intends to license products and processes to the pharmaceutical and medical diagnostics industry.

The company is scheduled to join AIM early in the new year and is expected to raise £5 million, at 100p a share, by way of a public offer of about 25 per cent of its share capital. Dealers are already reporting considerable interest in the stock.

Self Sealing Systems, which owns patents on processes that seal balloons without tying a knot, will join AIM before Christmas through a placing at 54p a share, capitalising the company at £3.15 million.

Compagnie de Participations Financieres (Luxembourg), a property and project development company, will be the first continental European company to list on AIM. Dealings are scheduled to begin on Wednesday.

The company says that its developments, across northern Europe but predominantly in eastern Germany, are "low risk".

The shares are expected to start at between 475p and 495p, capitalising the group at nearly £12 million.

DMATEK, an Israeli-based company specialising in computer software applications, intends to list on AIM before Christmas.

It is expected to be capitalised at about £15 million. The company intends to use the proceeds from a placing, expected to raise up to £5 million, to help to expand its marketing activities and distribution channels and to fund additional research and product development.

Tesco leads drink sales

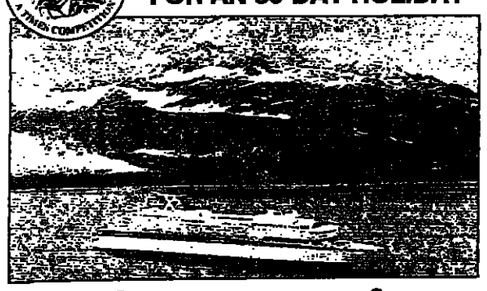
BY ALASDAIR MURRAY

SUPERMARKETS are winning the battle for the take-home alcohol market, according to a new report published by Verdict, the retail consultants.

The report estimates that for every £10 spent on drink, £6 is spent in supermarkets. Tesco emerges as the market leader with 12.6 per cent of sales, an increase of 21 per cent since 1991, followed by Sainsbury with 11.9 per cent. The largest specialist retailer is Thresher, owned by Whitbread, with 8.3 per cent of the market. The biggest growth element in the off-licence market has been wine sales, with consumption more than doubling in ten years.

The report puts the legitimate cross-Channel take-home drinks market at around £650 million or 2.5 per cent of the total market. Verdict concludes that supermarkets will continue to dominate the trade.

COLLECT 30 TOKENS FOR A CHANCE TO WIN £20,000 FOR AN 80-DAY HOLIDAY



Win a cruise to Alaska

The Times and *The Sunday Times*, are offering readers the chance to win one of 80 holidays for two, plus 10 per cent discounts, to a range of destinations throughout the world.

This week our holidays come from Celebrity Cruises, all of whose ships have generously sized cabins with television and a personal steward. Every evening a programme of the following day's events is delivered to your cabin and there is always a wide choice from skeet shooting to a bridge tournament. The ships have casinos, discos, pools, health clubs, quiet libraries and nightly entertainment

DEPARTURES: May 30, June 6, Sept 5 and 12, 1996. The cost of today's holiday is from £1,259, down from £1,399 per person and includes flights, 7 nights aboard Horizon, 1 night twinshare on a room only basis in Vancouver, transfers, all meals, entertainment and gratuities while on board.

To win today's holiday, answer the question below and phone our competition hotline: **0891 40 50 34** open until midnight tonight. The winner will be chosen at random from all correct entries. Normal *Times* Newspapers competition rules apply.

Q. What is the capital of Alaska?

Calls are charged at 39p per minute cheap rate and 49p at all other times.

THE TIMES Around the World in 80 Days £20,000 TOKEN 64

Celebrity Cruises
ALLOW US TO EXCEED YOUR EXPECTATIONS

United Vacations offers readers 10% discount on today's holiday and all the holidays featured this week. The price covers flights, transfers and shared double room. For a brochure call:

01369 707711

ALTERNATIVE INVESTMENT MARKET

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (pence)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
15.30	AMCO Corp	107	...	5.3	11.8
0.94	Abacus Recruit *	18	+ 1	...	...
18.10	A de Grisley	123	...	5.7	10.2
6.12	African Gold	7¼	...	...	...
	Albemarale & Bd	14	...	...	...
11.70	Alpha Omicron	21	...	...	...
39.70	Ann St Brewery	415	...	5.3	12.5
5.30	Ann St Cv Pf	895	...	8.9	...
95.60	Antonov	136	+ 16	...	...
11.70	Ask Central	73	...	...	...
	Athelney Trust	60	+ 5	...	...
4.37	Baris Hldgs	17	...	...	...
4.12	Belcanto	46	...	...	...
	Bowness Leis	145	...	...	...
	Bown Leis Cv Pf	70	...	...	...
5.55	Brancote Hldgs	56	...	...	...
27.40	Brockbank	235	...	3.4	23.5
	CCI Hldgs	116	...	...	...
	CCI Founder Shs	110	...	...	...
2.93	Cafe Inns	105	- 10	2.4	8.6
8.52	Caledonian Tst	75	...	...	9.1
11.90	Card Clear	60	- 1	...	...
3.96	Cassidy Bros	72	+ 2	5.2	10.3
1.79	Cavendish W F	41	...	...	20.8
5.58	Celebrated Group	19	...	...	...
17.30	Celtic	6650	-100	...	...
	Celtic Pf Shs	6650	-100	...	...
15.10	CI Comms(TV)	112	- 2	2.7	14.3
5.58	Chartwell Intl	62	...	...	...
13.10	ClubPartners	31	...	...	...
7.99	Conister Tst	40	...	2.5	17.1
10.70	Country Gdns	60	- 1	2.5	12.4
2.49	Cntry Gdns Pf	68	...	9.8	...
39.20	Creos Intl	109	- 5	...	...
10.60	DBS Management	157	- 3	4.8	6.4
	Dalkeith Inns	35	...	...	...
3.58	David Glass	66	- 2	5.5	9.4
39.30	Dawson Hldgs	860	...	4.2	11.9
3.21	Dean Corp	11	...	...	64.3
103.50	Electrophoretics Intl	160	+ 10	...	...
5.62	Euro Sales Fn	125	...	...	...
	Farfalla	255	+ 20	...	...
1.77	Finl Pubns	75	...	...	...
24.20	Firecrest	145	- 15	...	63.1
5.53	Floral St	238	...	...	12.9
5.25	Flomerics	205	...	...	18.6
11.10	Formscan	118	- 10	2.2	...
4.65	Furlong Homes	93	+ 3	3.2	5.0
23.80	Gander Hldgs	81½	+ ½	...	70.4
5.70	Greenhills	19	...	...	...
34.60	Gulton	155	...	3.2	14.0
5.40	Hansom	53	- 3	...	...
54.50	Hiscox Ded Ins	120	...	0.3	...
11.20	Indpt Radio	112	...	...	...
13.60	Inmar Workings	81	...	...	...
21.10	Intl Greetings	503	...	...	...
3.87	Jasmin	95	- 8	...	...
18.80	Jennings Bros	290	+ 2	2.5	24.9
37.80	KS Biomedix	100	- 1	...	...
25.30	Lancashire Enterprises	140	...	4.4	11.9
	Lawrence	205	...	...	...
53.70	Lawrie Group	2750	...	3.2	14.0
46.40	Le Riches Strs	280	...	7.0	27.0
	Lifehome As Ten	85	...	...	...
21.80	Lon Fiduciary	2¼	...	...	...
2.00	London Town	80	...	...	...
12.00	Lorien Grp	210	...	...	...
44.80	Megalomedia	104	...	...	...
	Megalomedia Wts	97	...	...	...
5.70	Meltek	90	+ 7	...	40.2
275.30	Memory Corp	465	+ 20	...	...
6.04	Metrodome Films	21	- 1	...	...
11.80	Moorepay	156	- 2	3.2	25.7
19.60	MultiMedia	68	+ 1	...	...
22.50	NWF Grp	300	...	2.7	14.5
	Nash (Wm)	160	...	5.2	...
8.48	Nelll Clerk	335	+ 5	2.2	16.2
5.63	Neilson Cobbold	205	...	2.3	5.0
	Norcity It	65	...	...	...
	Norhomes	66	...	...	...
	Nthmb Res Prps	70	+ 5	...	...
16.50	Nursing Home	107	+ 2¼	0.6	...
9.46	Old English Pub	86	- 2	2.9	...
5.49	Omnicare	89	+ 3	2.1	14.8
12.70	Omnimedia	71	+ 1	...	...
13.30	Pacific Media	1¼	...	...	...
	Pacific Med Pf	45	- 8	...	...
6.79	Pan Andean Res	16½	+ 1½	...	...
4.66	Park Ests(Liv)	195	...	...	...
86.20	Pet City	355	...	...	...
3.62	Preston Nth E	400	...	...	...
1.07	Revelation Piccadilly	100	...	...	...
11.20	Ricoman Insce	17	...	...	...
13.40	SCS Satellite	130	...	...	...
4.45	Scotswood Inds	20	...	6.2	60.8
	Scott Pride	41	...	...	...
13.00	Scrutions	270	...	6.0	11.0
	Silkbarn	2½	...	...	...
123.80	Southern News	525	- 3	3.7	14.6
	Southern Vectis	53	- 3	...	...
30.80	Stanford Rook	176	...	...	...
13.10	Surrey Fr Inns	130	+ 5	1.7	15.3
47.90	TRACKER Netwk	905	- 70	...	...
5.15	Tele Cred Eur	51	+ 3	...	...
	Tele Cred Wrts	41	+ 1	...	...
14.40	Toad	116	+ 13	...	...
	Trinity Care	180	...	1.0	...
	Trinity Care Pf	165	...	...	...
181.60	Trocadero	43	- 1	...	...
	Univent	40	...	...	...
8.24	Uld Auctions	463	...	1.1	...
	VDC	585	- 40	...	...
35.70	Versailles Grp	13½	...	...	22.0
	Voss	240	- 3	...	...
	Wedderburn Secs	13	+ 1	...	...
	Wedd Secs Wrnts	5	...	...	...
2.13	Westmount Engy	26	+ 5	...	...
8.64	W'chester M Mid	78	+ 2	...	...
	Wynnstay Props	145	...	...	...
	Zergo	170	...	...	...

£299.

Sharp introduce a laser printer for the price of an inkjet.

- The JX-9200 high quality laser printer.
- Designed with Microsoft® for total 'Windows™ Compatibility'.
- Communicates with the user via a 'Printer Status Window'.
- The World's smallest laser printer.
- Efficient, reliable and easy to use.
- A true 600 x 600 DPI version available.
- Free 12 months on-site service.

Call free now on 0800 262 958, quoting reference PT1.8

SHARP
INTELLIGENT THINKING

PC WORLD • JOHN LEWIS PARTNERSHIP • TEMPO • COMET • ABBOS • SUNRISE ELECTRONICS (0171 637 7727) • MICRO ANSWER (0171 636 2547) • ALTERNATIVES (0500 314314) • PRINTERLINE (01709 530808) • KNOWLEDGE TREE (01706 817617) • INMAC (0990 146624) • ELONEX (0181 452 4444) • PERSONAL BUSINESS CENTRES. *SSP EXCLUDING VAT. **NOT COMPATIBLE WITH WINDOWS™ NT.

Keynote speech on world trade puts UK view

Peter Sutherland, former Director-General of Gatt and the World Trade Organisation and now chairman of Goldman Sachs International, is to make a keynote speech on "World Trade — as seen from London" at a special dinner in London tonight.

The event, organised by the European-Atlantic group, will be attended by ambassadors, diplomats and Department of Trade representatives. The dinner is being hosted by Lord Rippon, a former Cabinet Minister, and will be used as a forum for a discussion on world trade and the role that Britain can play in it. More than 150 guests are expected to attend.

Mr Sutherland, who is also a former Attorney-General of the Republic of Ireland and European Community commissioner, will also cover the Gatt agreement, in which he played a key role.

Brand clean-up

Johnson Group Cleaners, the UK's largest dry cleaner, is to spend £6 million to re-equip and rebrand the nine regional organisations through which it trades under one national brand name, Johnsons. The three-year programme will be introduced in more than 600 retail dry cleaning outlets.

The group said the reorganisation of its UK business this year should show through in 1996 and that a similar exercise in the US, including a $1 million reduction in overhead costs, should also produce benefits in the next year.

Oman oil pact

Elf Aquitaine, the French oil and gas company, has signed a new production-sharing agreement with Oman's Ministry of Petroleum and Minerals to explore a new block in the country's west central region. Elf plans to invest $41 million over seven years on seismic surveys and the drilling of five exploration wells.

National Grid shares start trading against a background of controversy

Balancing act that made sparks fly

Christine Buckley examines the Electricity Pool pricing mechanism

TODAY'S debut of the National Grid on the stock market swiftly follows the rise in the cost of electricity to unprecedented levels. But while last week it seemed that the system of electricity pool pricing — which comes under the administration of the Grid — had hurtled out of control, the mechanism was, in fact, functioning as intended and setting the cost at half-hourly intervals as supply and demand dictated.

The peak price, which hit an all-time high on Thursday and meant that a medium-sized manufacturing plant with typical energy consumption would have to pay £3,500 for an hour's electricity supply, is set by the Electricity Pool from a formula that aims to balance demand and supply and the payment requirements of the generators.

The Pool's operation was created in response to one of the key challenges facing the privatisation of electricity — how to introduce competition into the industry and still keep the lights on. Without a sophisticated rubric, although that description at present would send many large energy users into paroxysms, a situation could arise whereby there was not enough electricity available to cover a sudden surge in demand.

Although we have been close to that state, which would necessitate major power cuts, it has not quite happened yet. The Electricity Pool, which sets the half-hourly rates a day in advance, will estimate demand and balance that against potential supply. Demand is calculated by the National Grid, which operates the UK's transmission system and handles the requirements of the 12 regional electricity companies.

The National Grid uses a variety of historical information, social behaviour patterns, and day-to-day monitoring.

Such calculations will, for example, take account of activities such as a huge numbers of kettles being switched on after the Panorama programme featuring the Princess of Wales, which possibly created the greatest domestic demand of the year.

Intentionally, more supply will be called upon than will be used in order to cover unexpected leaps in demand. But as the generators need to be in a state of readiness to deliver, they are compensated for electricity they have the capacity to produce which is not sold on by the Pool to the regional electricity companies, which distribute the power to industrial users and households. This payment is termed loss of load and forms the bulk of the price set for electricity during the day.

The other component of price setting is the rate at which generators bid into the Pool. This, which accounts for about 10 per cent of the cost setting, will vary according to the type of power station from which they are producing electricity.

Nuclear electricity, for example, is a comparatively cheap form of power and will come in at the base of the Pool, exacting a modest price but running most of the time. Coal and gas-fired plants bid at a higher rate, and oil higher still. The most expensive method of electricity production is hydro. These plants come into action only when demand is at a premium, commanding the top price.



Princess of Wales: demand

The rocketing of power prices to the unprecedented level we witnessed last week remains in line with the calculations, but several factors have worked to squeeze up the price. The most important is a slump in cheaply produced electricity. The industrial dispute in France has drained cheap power because the importation of cheap electricity from France to the UK via a subsea interconnector has stopped and the National Grid has been exporting power to France.

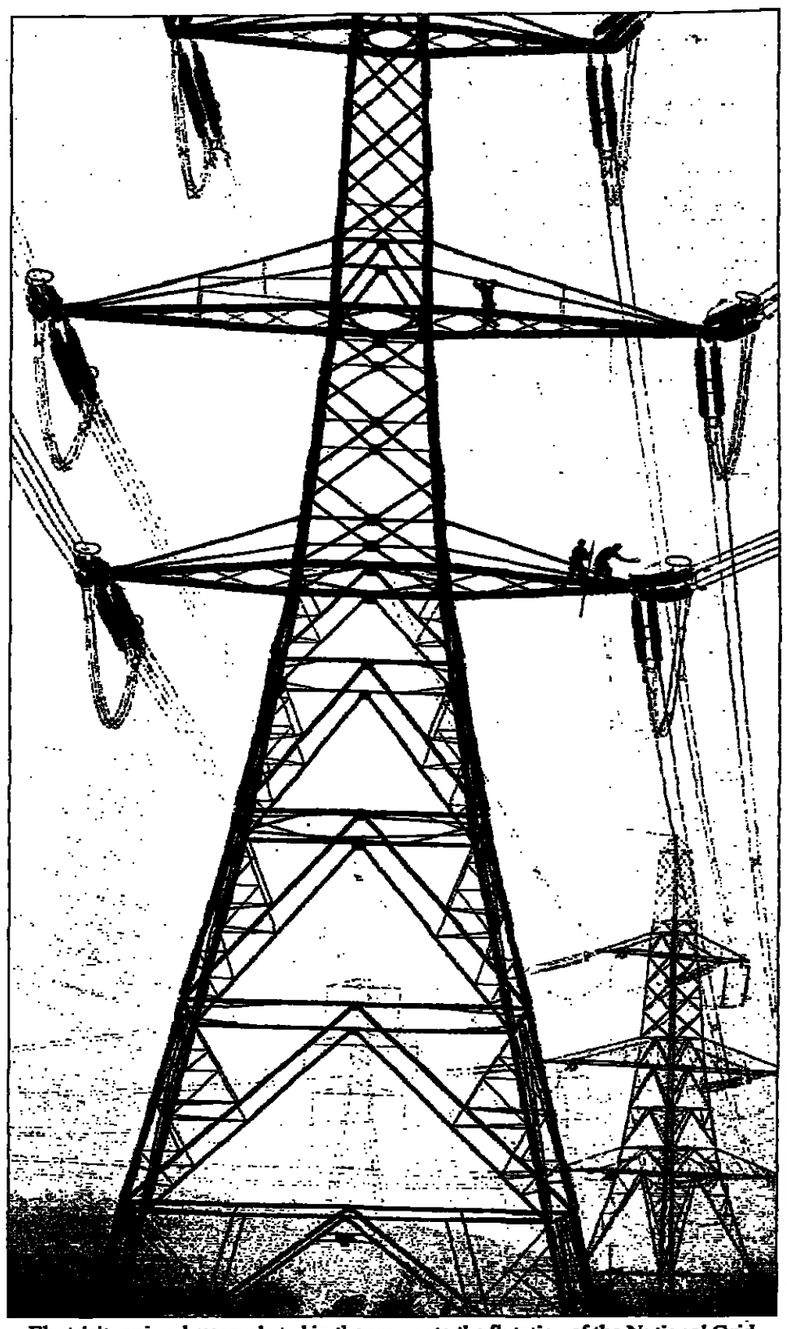
All in all, the loss of cheap electricity amounts to more than that produced by an average power station. Additionally, the output of Nuclear Electric is nearly a third less than capacity at the moment because of a variety of problems at six of its reactors.

While cheap production has fallen, demand, because of the severe weather, has climbed to a record level. This results in increased demands on the higher-cost, or "mid-merit", generators.

While electricity users are used to peaks and troughs in the pool pricing, they are not used to it rising to such levels. Theoretically, it could rise higher. The pricing cap on the Pool price set by the electricity regulator is structured on a yearly average.

Extremely low prices in the summer months — this summer they fell to 2p a unit whereas yesterday the highest price was £1.40p a unit — are set against the highs and are reviewed in retrospect. The price cap for the average price this year for a megawatt hour is £26.94. Last Thursday the peak price for the same capacity was £1,108.

The regulator will look at the average price in retrospect at the end of the electricity tariff year in March. If it has exceeded that rate, he has the power to refer the generators to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission.



Electricity prices have rocketed in the run-up to the flotation of the National Grid

Brokers fear US high-tech 'bubble' may burst

FROM RICHARD THOMSON IN NEW YORK

WALL STREET'S high technology sector is expected to face a rough ride over the next few days after last week's sharp reversals, which reflected fears that many companies may be grossly overvalued.

The high-tech sector has led the New York stock market to a series of record highs in recent weeks, but analysts are voicing fears that many companies are buoyed up in what amounts to a speculative bubble. Investors have chased the shares of computer software companies higher with firms such as Netscape, which was floated last summer, reaching a price of more than 530 times current earnings.

Netscape is a provider of software for browsing on the Internet, an area that has attracted frenzied support from investors. The company's shares were issued at $28 but subsequently rose to about $170, despite the fact that the enterprise has produced profits of only $5 million since it was founded. As nervousness mounted last week, Netscape's shares fell $28.75 to $132.50.

Other shares, such as America Online, which have been riding high, also fell after Smith Barney, the broker, published a bearish circular that recommended investors to bale out of the sector.

Much of the volatility has been caused by Microsoft's disclosure last Thursday that it was putting more effort into providing software for the Internet. Investors interpreted this as a clear indication that more competition is on the way for newer Internet companies such as Netscape.

Many analysts, however, believe that Microsoft has been badly damaged by its failure to exploit the potential of the Internet sooner. Last week's agreement to licence the new Java software developed by Sun Microsystems for use on the Internet was seen by many as an admission by Microsoft that it had missed the boat.

Numerous companies, including IBM and Netscape, have adopted Java as the basic software for perusing the Internet. The message from Marc Andreesen, vice president of Netscape, is: "In a fight between a bear and an alligator, what determines the victor is the terrain. Microsoft just moved on to our terrain."

The licencing of software from other companies marks a dramatic policy shift by Microsoft, which has traditionally developed all its own interlocking software.

The company has ruthlessly capitalised on its domination of personal-computer software, a factor that is still the subject of an anti-trust investigation by the US Government.

During the past two years, Microsoft has focused much of its energy on CD-Rom technology. But with software opening up the Internet, many analysts are predicting a new trend.

Microsoft announced on Friday that it had signed an agreement with Unipalm Pipex, shortly to merge with UUNet, to provide Internet access for Microsoft network (MSN) users in the UK early next year.

The church is Byzantine.
The orchestra is the Berlin Symphony.
The music is Carmina Burana.
The audience is 99% Muslim.



And the city is Istanbul.
The imperial capital of Romans, Byzantines and Ottomans.
The economic and cultural centre of modern Turkey.
Like in Istanbul, past and future blend perfectly across Turkey.
Eight thousand years of history greet you wherever you turn.
So much so, you'll wonder why you ever thought of going anywhere else.

The Europe you don't know.
The Asia you will discover.
TURKEY

South African Sappi plans continental shopping trip

BY JON ASHWORTH

SAPPI, the South African pulp and paper group, is back on the acquisition trail. The company, which established a UK bridgehead five years ago, is planning a strong push into mainland Europe. Targets include companies in France and Italy, where Sappi is geographically weak.

Sappi established its international credentials in October 1993, by paying $1.6 billion for a majority stake in SD Warren, one of America's leading paper groups. The deal, the biggest American investment ever made by a South African company, transformed Sappi into the world's largest producer of coated wood-free papers.

Unusually, it was financed without a cent leaving South Africa. Future expansion is expected to consolidate Sappi's lead in the coated wood-free sector. Franz Neudeck, chief executive of Sappi Europe, based in London, is actively considering acquisitions. He said: "Our structure is now essentially there, and we are seeking opportunities for expansion. The need for speed of deliveries will be a factor."

Mr Neudeck is further assessing opportunities in Eastern European countries such as Poland, Hungary and the Czech Republic. He said: "It will be sales-led, and we will establish local plant if sales demand. Labour costs are very low. You can employ 20 Poles for one German."



Neudeck: speed factor

Sappi entered the UK market in 1990, with the purchase of five paper mills. It subsequently bought two mills in Germany, under the banner of Hannover Papier, and has established a Europe-wide sales organisation, based in Brussels. A European holding company was founded in May 1995. Sappi Europe has 3,000 employees and contributes 22 per cent of group turnover.

Sappi is converting its mill in Blackburn, Lancashire, at a cost of £30 million, to accommodate coated wood-free production. The project is due to become operational in 1997.

Scope limited by political risks

GILT-EDGED

Gilts may squeeze up in coming weeks as institutional investors put spare cash into financial assets before the year-end. Next year, however, rising political uncertainties will offset favourable inflation trends. Once the year-end is past, gilts will struggle to make extra gains without overseas help.

The market seems to be expecting a quarter-point rate cut at this week's Ken and Eddie meeting. We suspect that they will hold fire unless this week's data for retail sales and output prices are very weak. With sterling near its low, a near-term rate cut could be read by the markets as validating the idea that the authorities will slash rates to hit their 3 per cent growth forecast. Such a scenario could undermine sterling and limit the scope for subsequent rate cuts. Recent data have not been so weak that the authorities must cut rates now or risk the economy going into tailspin.

A delay would allow more evidence to emerge that inflation will fall next year. This could allow a larger rate cut in the new year. With the Tories apparently aiming for an early 1997 election, it seems better from the political angle to aim for steady and sustainable cuts in base rates rather than rush it. Fading price pressures are likely to allow base rates to fall to 6 or 6.25 per cent by the middle of 1996. Rates could eventually drop further if the Government (either Conservative or Labour) sticks to tight fiscal plans in 1997.

Inflation prospects remain extremely favourable. If this week's figures show underlying inflation still below 4 per cent, then this will be the longest peacetime run of low inflation since the 1930s. Moreover, the recent declines in survey readings of manufacturers' prices hint that inflation is set to fall again next year. The underlying rate is likely to drop below 2.5 per cent in the second half of the year.

There is every chance that inflation will stay well below the 4 per cent mark for several more years as well. The "shop till you drop" culture has been broken by high personal debts and the sharp fall in housing wealth. The shift towards part-time work, self-employment and temporary jobs is capping wage deals, thereby limiting consumers' firepower and helping firms keep their cost base under control. Capacity strains are limited, and the economy's slowdown will create even more slack to act as a buffer against future capacity constraints.

However, while the consensus may be surprised by the inflation out-turn, gilts have little extra margin for the political uncertainties caused by the approach of the next election. The market reaction to Mr Major's resignation, when long yields rose by 0.4 per cent in a week, shows that political risks have not vanished. Although Labour's rhetoric has shifted to the right since early 1992, the UK lacks the policy constraints that seemed to be required at that time by ERM membership. Labour's policies remain ambiguous over fiscal policy, public spending levels and the Bank of England's role in setting base rates.

The risk premium that is built into gilt yields can be measured by the gap between the breakeven inflation rate and the economists' consensus for RPI inflation at the end of the following year. Currently, this gap is about 1 per cent. This matches the long-run norm, but is well below the 1.5 per cent gap seen before the 1992 election. The risk premium rose to 1.3 per cent during the Tory leadership election, even though the risks that the vote would prompt a General Election were quite small.

It is possible that the Labour leadership will clarify their policies sufficiently to remove the need for a pre-election risk premium. Some Labour advisers have suggested that an incoming Labour government would cut public spending sharply in order to establish its market credibility.

Nevertheless, if the current ambiguities over Labour's monetary and fiscal policies remain, then the risk premium probably will rise as the election approaches. Even if the inflation consensus falls all the way to 2.5 per cent, in line with our inflation forecast for next year, a rise in the risk premium to 1.5 per cent would imply a floor of about 4 per cent for the breakeven inflation rate. Such a floor gives little scope for gilts to outperform and suggests that further gains will be dependent on global trends.

MICHAEL SAUNDERS
Salomon Brothers

هكذا من الأصل

Minimum wage would 'add 10p to the cost of a pint of beer'

BY PHILIP BASSETT
INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

LABOUR'S plans for a minimum wage will add 10p to the price of a pint of beer, according to an independent brewer.

Though business leaders and ministers have drawn up estimates of the impact on jobs and payrolls of a statutory national minimum wage (NMW) as proposed by Labour, the calculation by Fuller's, the west London brewer, is one of the first attempts to suggest how an NMW may raise the price of a particular product.

Business leaders are pressing Labour to put a figure on its plans for an NMW — not so much for a political objective of a target at which to aim, but as something about which they then can start planning. They have moved beyond the political arguments and, in readiness for the forthcoming general election, are increasingly concerned about how Labour's plans are to be implemented.

But Labour leaders maintain they will not set a minimum wage level in advance of the election, but will instead, if Labour wins, set it after taking advice from a planned Low Pay Commission, drawn from business and employees' leaders, which will make recommendations on the likely level of a statutory minimum.

But before that, the estimate by Fuller's will irritate Labour leaders — partly because it is being applied to beer, a popular product that carries a considerable amount of electoral force. Anthony Fuller, chairman of the brewer, said: "We have done research on the impact of the minimum wage on our beer, and as a company we will lose out unless the price of our beer is increased by 10p per pint."

Though no rate has yet been set, the calculations by Fuller's rest on a minimum wage of £4 an hour — lower than both the political target of £4.15 favoured by some union leaders and Labour left-wingers and the level suggested by the Government's New Earnings Survey, but higher than some Labour leaders have privately suggested is reasonable.

After the Government scrapped two years ago the wages council which used to set pay minima for pub workers, Fuller's raised its minimum rate from £3.01 as last recommended by the council to its current level of £3.25. With a prospective statutory minimum of £4, Fuller's calculates the 23 per cent shortfall between the two rates in terms of the company's overall turnover can only be made up by an 8.5p rise on a pint of beer, which, with VAT, will put up the price of a pint by 10p.

Sir Rocco's 'secret' weapon in the high-stakes bid war

Eric Reguly profiles the Forte camp's most trusted takeover defence adviser

When the going gets tough, the tough surround themselves with reliable old friends. So it is with Sir Rocco Forte, chairman of the beseiged Forte group, who has wrapped himself in a security blanket in the form of Roberto Mendoza.

Mr Mendoza and Sir Rocco go back to their schoolboy days in Somerset. Sir Rocco went on to take over the management of one of the world's largest hotels and restaurants companies while Mr Mendoza became one of the most formidable players in the mergers and acquisitions market.

The latter, now vice-chairman of J P Morgan, the American commercial bank that acts more like an investment bank, is effectively running Forte's defence against Granada. An acquaintance of both men said: "When you're faced with the sort of life-threatening deal Rocco is facing, you want to work with people you know and trust."

Forte went to great lengths to keep Mr Mendoza's role secret. When Granada launched its £3.4 billion hostile takeover offer for Forte on November 22, Sir Rocco announced that he had retained Morgan Stanley, the Wall Street investment firm, and London's SBC Warburg as financial advisers. J P Morgan was not mentioned at all.

Rumours nonetheless circulated that J P Morgan had slipped on board. Forte denied the story completely, insisting that J P Morgan itself was not involved; a certain Mr Mendoza, though, was "on loan".


Mendoza: formidable player

Later, it confirmed that J P Morgan had indeed been retained and that Mr Mendoza was leading a small army of senior bankers on both sides of the Atlantic. Forte insiders said that they wanted to keep J P Morgan's role quiet for fear of leaving the impression that they lacked faith in Morgan Stanley and SBC Warburg. The effort backfired.

This is not the first time that Morgan Stanley has been shunted aside by J P Morgan. Earlier this year, Morgan Stanley found itself playing second fiddle to its American rival over the £10 billion merger of TSB with Lloyds Bank.

Mr Mendoza is the strongest weapon in Sir Rocco's arsenal. Though he is not a household name in the City, he is one of the best-known, and feared, figures on Wall Street.

Born in Havana in 1945, Mr Mendoza was raised in England and attended Downside Abbey, where he met the future Sir Rocco. They chose very different careers.

Sir Rocco and his father, Lord Forte, became the upstarts hounding the English establishment while Mr Mendoza joined J P Morgan, the blue-blooded financial institution founded by J Pierpont Morgan, who was America's most powerful businessman in the early part of this century.

Mr Mendoza specialised in international corporate finance and, after a brief stint at Morgan Stanley, ran J P Morgan's mergers and acquisitions department during the takeover boom of the late 1980s.

In doing so, he was almost personally responsible for changing J P Morgan's image from a quiet gentlemanly corporate lender to a high-risk mergers and acquisitions machine.

One of his best-known deals was putting together the $4.5 billion leveraged buyout of Hospital Corporation of America, once the largest hospitals operator in the world. The bank took a small equity stake in the deal. That investment is now worth $1 billion.

He also advised Hoffman-La Roche on its $4.2 billion offer for Sterling Drug, J P Morgan's first hostile deal. Hoffman's bid failed, but Mr Mendoza felt no shame. Kodak, the white knight, found that it had taken on too much and later unloaded Sterling.

In the summer, Mr Mendoza advised Westinghouse Electric on its $5.4 billion acquisition of the CBS television network and arranged all the acquisition financing. A J P Morgan spokesman called him "our senior dealmaker around the globe".

Banesto, where he was a director, is one of the few black spots on his CV. During the bank's financial crisis last year, he and the rest of the board were sacked by the Bank of Spain. The episode proved highly embarrassing to J P Morgan, which had invested a small fortune in Banesto through the Cosair Partnership.

Very little is known about Mr Mendoza's private life. He is not married, is said to be a voracious reader and likes to play tennis and chess. He speaks with a mid-Atlantic accent, is low key but impatient, and as one acquaintance put it, is "intensely intense". It appears that his job is his life and he has a lot riding on the Granada-Forte deal.

J P Morgan, according to the latest study from Securities Data Corp, is ranked eighth among advisers in worldwide deals.

If Mr Mendoza, against the odds, manages to succeed in fending off Granada or forces it to up the ante, it will emerge as a threat to the top-ranking advisory firms in London, such as Goldman Sachs and Morgan Stanley.

CBI makes a surprise U-turn on traffic policy

BY JONATHAN PRYNN, TRANSPORT CORRESPONDENT

THE historic link between economic growth and traffic growth — one of the core beliefs of the road lobby — should be severed, the CBI has admitted for the first time.

The call marks a major shift from the well-rehearsed argument of the business community that increasing road use is an undesirable but inevitable by-product of a growing economy.

This case has carried much weight with governments of all parties since the war and has often been used to justify continued road building.

However, a new CBI transport policy paper, *Moving Forward*, published today, accepts that building more roads is no longer the answer and that the "transport intensity of economic growth" has to be curbed.

Adair Turner, the CBI's Director-General, called for a further £2 billion a year of spending on transport infrastructure as well as a package of other measures to separate the Siamese twins of economic and traffic growth.

They include:

☐ Encouraging employers to develop staff transport policies, such as car sharing, to reduce the number of vehicles they use to commute. The CBI document points to schemes in Holland, where employees receive cash rewards for not bringing their cars to work.

☐ Better government enforcement of regulations, parking restrictions on bus routes and vehicle safety and emissions standards.

☐ Using the fiscal regime to promote the "user pays" principle through, for example, motorway tolls.

☐ Developing new land use policies so that the car is less of a necessity for travelling to work. The document points approvingly to a £7 million project in Edinburgh, where 120 flats are to be built close to the city centre and residents will have to sign an undertaking not to own a car.

The document, thought to be the first from the CBI calling for a slowing of the rate of transport growth, reflects the increasing political isolation of the old-style roads lobby.

The report said: "Concerns have become widespread about emissions and the growing intrusion of transport infrastructure on the physical environment. For some at least, the rapid expansion in private mobility is seen as reinforcing community and social fragmentation."

CBI chiefs argue that transport will have to be regarded in future in the same way as energy in the 1970s and 1980s — as an increasingly expensive finite resource that is no longer inexhaustible.

Mr Turner said: "We are recognising that you cannot simply extend the graphs and say that if traffic growth doubled over the past 25 years, then it must double again over the next 25."


Turner: call to curb traffic


Tour operators are about to begin their campaigns to attract discount-conscious customers to get away from it all

Holiday firms target late-bookers

BY MARIANNE CURPHEY

AIRTOURS, Britain's second-largest tour operator, is today expected to reveal a 25 per cent drop in profits, to about £57 million, after one of its toughest ever summers.

Rumours that Carnival Cruise of the US, the world's largest cruise company, may be considering buying a stake in Airtours caused a blip last week in the share price, which ended at 336p, a five-session gain of 26p.

The travel industry is gearing up for the two busiest months of the year — January and February — and is out to lure early bookers. Prospects are, however, bleak. Bookings are down by between 20 and 30 per cent from the pre-Christmas period last year, and the three largest tour operators have all cut capacity while raising brochure prices by about 8 per cent.

"Their objective," one analyst said, "is to ensure that a lot of people miss out on their summer holiday because all the packages have been sold in the spring. Operators hope that if enough people get their fingers burnt, the cycle of last-minute booking will be broken."

However, the late-booking culture is seen as largely the industry's fault. In the race for market share, operators piled on capacity and had to make deep discounts in mid-summer to attract clients.

Raising prices — a reverse of a ten-year trend — — follows a disastrous summer in which job insecurity and the British heatwave hit demand for foreign holidays.

After what Francis Baron, First Choice chief executive, called "the toughest summer on record", 45 per cent of package holidays were booked late (between April and October), up from an annual average of 30 per cent.

Although total sales were similar to 1994's, holidays were so deeply discounted that operators, including Thomson, the UK market leader, saw profits retreat.

In coming weeks, special offers and discounts of 10 to 20 per cent on 1996 holidays will be advertised, in an attempt to kick-start sales. Travel agents will trim their commission with discounts. Operators expect to stand firm on price. Analysts expect usual incentives, such as free child places, but little new.

First Choice has said it is cutting 300 jobs due to disappointing bookings for 1996. At 61p, its shares are less than half the all-time high of 130p.

Companies, page 35

Salomon to buck trend with cut in bonuses

FROM RICHARD THOMSON IN NEW YORK

EMPLOYEES of Salomon Brothers have been told their bonuses will be significantly lower than last year as the investment bank kicked off the bonus season on Wall Street.

Although bonuses, which may constitute half of an employee's total remuneration, will generally be higher at most firms this year after an improvement in profits, Salomon is a notable exception.

Many employees were told the discretionary part of their pay would be cut by at least 20 per cent. A few would see an even larger fall after a lacklustre year for profits at the bank.

A middle-ranking executive on a basic salary of $200,000 a year can expect a bonus of about $300,000 to $320,000, compared with $400,000 last year. Senior staff, however, will still receive total pay of more than $1 million this year.

An important feature of the bonuses is the greater emphasis this year on "tiering", with a few high-profit producing staff receiving much larger bonuses while the rest experience a reduction. This policy is likely to be followed by most Wall Street firms.

At the same time, the bank announced that it was strengthening its management with the appointment of three new board members linked to its key areas of business — David Maxwell, John Haseltine and Shigeru Myojin. Salomon has also appointed along with 57 new managing directors, swelling the bank's upper ranks by a third.

Coles Myer challenged

FROM RACHEL BRIDGE IN SYDNEY

PHILIP BOWMAN, former finance director at Coles Myer, Australia's largest retailer, is preparing to launch a blistering attack on the company when they meet in court this week to battle over Bowman's termination payment, thought to be worth several hundred thousand pounds.

Bowman, who was previously finance director at Bass, was dismissed by Coles Myer in September after just three months in the job. He has made it clear he intends to raise questions about Coles Myer in general and its approach to corporate governance in particular.

Bowman is suing the company for A$2.16 million (£980,000) for wrongful dismissal and misleading and deceptive conduct. He claims he was dismissed for asking too many questions about a controversial A$18m share deal between Coles Myer and a company called Yammon.

Bowman's initial allegations of impropriety in September prompted a shake-out at the group which resulted in the departure of Solomon Lew, the chairman, and three key directors. This was accompanied by a multi-billion-dollar restructuring plan.

The new Coles Myer board, led by Nobby Clark, former chairman of Fosters Brewing Group, is understood to be under mounting pressure to reach a settlement with Bowman to prevent further damaging allegations being made about the company. According to one insider: "Bowman's fight was with the old board and the last thing the new board wants is to start defending other parties' actions."

It is understood that Coles Myer previously offered a maximum payout to Bowman of A$1.35 million. Last week, the company failed in its attempt to have part of Bowman's claim struck out and it must now lodge its defence against the claim with the court today. The controversial share transaction with Yammon remains under investigation by the Australian Securities Commission.

THE TIMES

Crossword Books

Now! No handling charges and FREE postage to all our UK and Irish customers
For overseas customers excluding Irish Republic add a further £1 per item

The Times Crosswords Omnibus Edition
£4.99 - SOFTWARE £19.99 (2 discs)
The Times Crosswords - Books 6 - 13
(Penguin - limited stock) £3.99 each
The Times Crosswords - Books 14 - 19 £3.50 each
- SOFTWARE £9.99 each
The Times Concise Crosswords - (Penguin)
Book 1 £4.99 Book 2 £4.99 (240 puzzles each)
The Times Concise Crosswords - Books 3 - 6
£3.50 each - SOFTWARE £9.99 each
The Times Two Crosswords - Book 3 £2.99
- SOFTWARE £9.99
The Sunday Times Crosswords - Books 10 to 13
£3.50 each - SOFTWARE £9.99 each
The Sunday Times Concise Crosswords
Books 1 to 3 £3.50 each - SOFTWARE £9.99 each
SPECIAL OFFER - Any 5 crossword books for £15
Also available (Folded)
The Times Maps - only £4.99 each
The World - British Isles - Ireland - Canada
The Times Computer Crosswords
by David Akenhead
For IBM PCs (MS Dos) and Acorn RISC OS range.
including HELP levels on 3.5" diskette (circa 60 crosswords each)
The Times Computer Crosswords
Vols. 1,2,3,4,5,6 (6 titles)
The Times Jubilee Puzzles 1932-1987
(56 crosswords)
The Times Two Crosswords 1,2,3 (3 titles)
The Sunday Times Computer Crosswords
Vols. 1,2,3,4,5,6 (6 titles)
The Sunday Times Mephisto Crosswords
Now REDUCED to just £ 9.99 per title inc. VAT
US dollar cheques welcome - (£1 = $1.50)
Please send cheques or postal orders (no credit cards)
payable to Akom Ltd, 51 Manor Lane, London SE13 5QW
Enquiries: 0181 852 4575 (24 hours)
Delivery up to 8 days (UK)

WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page 32

AUDI
(b) Description of the remains of the lower Aurignacian period resembling those found at l'Abri *Audi*, a rockshelter near Les Eyzies, Dordogne, France, and to the culture they represent. A toponym. "In the Audi tool, the pointed knife edge is produced by a flake struck off the flint, this edge being sometimes trimmed."

FRITTO MISTO
(c) An Italian mixed grill, from the Italian for "a mixed fry", to be avoided at all costs, even to the extremity of eating veal. Go for the pasta. "The Minestrone of Milan and Genoa differ and so do the Fritto Misto of Rome and Turin."

DATO
(a) A landlord or chief in northern Borneo, the Phillipine islands, and some adjacent areas. From the Malay *dato* a ruler, Tagalog *datò* the ruling head of a clan or tribe. "The Resident and four Datos were lined up there to greet him."

FIRBOLG
(b) A name given in Irish legend to an early colonising people of Ireland. Perhaps from the Old Irish *fir* the plural of *fear* man + *bolg* the genitive plural of *bolg* bag or belly. So, "men of the bellies or bags". "Production of fairyland lustre began in November 1915: gnomes, pixies, fey creations, including the firbolgs, a peculiarly unappealing class of little men with big eyes."

SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE
1 Rh8+! Kxh8 2 Qh5+ Kg8 3 Be6+ Kf8 4 Qf7 mate.

CHANGE ON WEEK

THE POUND

US dollar
1.5277 (-0.0033)
German mark
2.2126 (+0.0003)
Exchange index
82.5 (-0.1)
Bank of England official close (4pm)

STOCKMARKET

FT 30 share
2630.1 (-40.5)
FT-SE 100
3630.0 (-50.4)
New York Dow Jones
5156.86 (+69.73)
Tokyo Nikkei Avge
19286.97 (+403.87)

TOURIST RATES

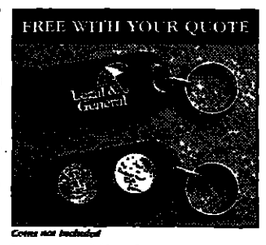
	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	2.17	2.01
Austria Sch	16.62	15.12
Belgium Fr	48.62	44.32
Canada $	2.207	2.047
Cyprus Cyp£	0.742	0.687
Denmark Kr	9.20	8.40
Finland Mkk	7.19	6.54
France Fr	8.05	7.40
Germany Dm	2.37	2.18
Greece Dr	385.00	360.00
Hong Kong $	12.51	11.51
Ireland Pt	1.02	0.94
Israel Shk	5.1500	4.5000
Italy Lira	2545.00	2390.00
Japan Yen	169.70	153.70
Malta	0.592	0.537
Netherlds Gld	2.639	2.409
New Zealand $	2.52	2.30
Norway Kr	10.34	9.54
Portugal Esc	244.00	225.50
S Africa Rd	ref.	5.38
Spain Pta	196.00	183.00
Sweden Kr	10.84	10.04
Switzerland Fr	1.93	1.75
Turkey Lira	refer	81457.0
USA $	1.631	1.501

Rates for small denomination bank notes only as supplied by Barclays Bank plc. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques. Rates as at close of trading yesterday.

Renewing your home contents insurance?

If you're looking for quality home contents cover from a company you know and trust, call Legal & General.

We offer up to £35,000 new-for-old cover with added discounts for the over 40s or for improved home security. And if you arrange both your home contents and buildings insurance with us, we'll give you 20% off your buildings policy. So find out about better home contents cover at a better price.



Coins not included

Call now for your free no-obligation quotation, we'll even give you a free coinholder keyring just to thank you for calling.

Call the name you can trust.
0800 282 404
Please quote reference 3559-BK
Office hours: Monday-Friday 8am-8pm
Saturday 9am-1pm.

Legal & General Insurance, FREEPOST, Quay House, Waterfront East, Brierley Hill, West Midlands DY5 1BR.

Home Contents cover is only available in England, Scotland and Wales and is subject to acceptance by underwriters.

Legal & General

Economically, jails cost more than corner shops



GRAHAM SEARJEANT

The US Federal Justice Department reports that, at its last count, 1,100,000 Americans were in prison. That is nearly one in 200 of the entire population, men, women and children. In California, epicentre of the American dream, more than 1 per cent were recently incarcerated. Across America, 7 per cent of the black minority spent some time in jail over the past year. No wonder Britain has turned to America for expertise in running prisons cheaply and efficiently. It is a major industry there.

Britain may be the incarceration capital of the EU. We are still far behind America. Less than one in 1,000 of our people is in prison. But the numbers have been rising fast. They should accelerate under government plans to limit remission of sentences and to impose deterrent jail terms on serial offenders. If crime is cut by a tougher regime, few but criminals will complain.

Learning lessons from America on prisons raises a different question. Why do we look to America for economic and social models, from de-regulation and institutional investor power to workfare schemes, if it produces this kind of society?

There is no simple link between the Anglo-Saxon version of free-market economics and America's underclass, or the atomisation of society into individuals. Land-rich, immigrant-powered, continental America is quite different from the denser economies of Western Europe, the Far East or even the former Soviet Union. Those differences are also reasons to question whether the US economic model is right for everyone else. It is, however, the blueprint for virtually all international financial institutions.

Last week, for instance, the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development issued its annual report on Japan. It urged yet more de-regulation, purer shareholder power to promote foreign takeovers, ending of protection for small shops and tough enforcement of competition laws to end cosy business links whose prime purpose, according to the OECD, is to reduce risk. Terrible thought. A few weeks ago, Eddie George, fresh from the Barings collapse, told Japanese bankers how vital it was to go along with market forces and let almost any bank go bust.

The Japanese economy used to be *dirigiste* and grow at twice the rate of the OECD average. Since 1991, however, it has scarcely grown at all. This might have happened anyway. But it is no coincidence that it followed Japan bowing to American pressure to deregulate first the yen, then the financial system, informal trade barriers and internal markets.

American bullying is understandable, given Japan's endemic, manufacturing-based trade surplus. OECD pressure to accelerate Americanisation of retailing might even be in Japan's long-term interest. If it has handed on the manufacturing baton, it needs other sources of growth.

Too-rapid reform can also do untold damage. The OECD crows contentedly that one in 15 of Japan's stores has closed in the past three years. Small shops are disappearing faster than ever before. As the OECD notes, however, most small stores are part of the owners's house. Modest efficiency gains are being won at the cost of a big social upheaval. The OECD accepts its favoured reforms will also cost jobs.

Yet uncertainty and loss of confidence are the main barriers to Japan emerging from recession. Traditionally, Japan had low unemployment (and crime), high saving and investment. Consumers are now saving even more because they fear unemployment will rise nearer the miserable OECD average. But even business not affected by the yen is not raising investment because of heightened risk. If Anglo-Saxon takeover bids take root, then so will the principle that the victim makes long-term investments, the bidder takes the returns.

Japan's genius was to have such strong cultural and social stability that it can manage rapid economic change confidently. Social stability breeds confidence. And as British Chancellors know, confidence is worth an awful lot of North Sea oil. Nothing breeds social confidence better than secure jobs and stable communities, including cantankerous small traders. Nothing breaks it down faster than serial unemployment, casual, unreliable low-paid work or living and working with passing strangers. In Britain, the American model for maximising economic efficiency comes up against the welfare state. Far from being the natural counterpart to an entirely flexible, competition-driven, free-market economy, the welfare state is ultimately incompatible with permanently high short-term unemployment, increasing low pay and casual labour.

At the aggregate level, insecurity keeps taxes and interest rates high. At street level, it hinders people providing so well for themselves, by buying houses, building up pensions, or insuring privately against risks that are now all too probable. Today, the CBI calls for a return to public transport. In a more confident society, as in Germany, that would make economic sense. But such gains cannot be made when many people do not feel safe on buses and urban trains.

Free markets are the only reliable guide for business progress and best drivers of change. But instability is also the enemy of progress. Sensible governments therefore manage change and occasionally load the dice. Since every government spends a large percentage of national income, takes a host of taxes and oversees rafts of regulations, its actions are bound to distort people's economic behaviour massively.

To pretend otherwise is an illusion, just another kind of social engineering. The trick is to help small shops via the tax rules and save money on prisons.

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

All a matter of taste

TASTE is a highly subjective sense as Egon Ronay seems to have proved. Earlier this month he rated Tesco IIb Christmas puds the best, a commendation used by Tesco in its adverts. However, in a separate test of smaller puds for Granada's *This Morning* TV programme, Mr Ronay rated Tesco's the worst of all supermarket brands tasted.

THE compilation of a study into power failures by the Major Energy Users took a little longer than expected to complete. Paul Danon of the group had written up several sections of the 20-month study without creating a computer backup file when a sudden voltage surge upset his sensitive personal computer and the work was lost.

Colony credentials

CHINA, watch out. Clare Davies, latterly of Brunswick, the City PR firm, has jumped ship to the rival Dewe Rogerson. She is bound for Hong Kong to market Dewe's privatisation expertise. Her reward for four years at Brunswick was a spoof business card reading "Clare Davies. Party Animal. No sleep required." Perfect for Hong Kong.

VIACOM INC, the US entertainments group, got pulses racing in the City on Friday evening after its chief executive apparently said his company was interested in acquiring EMI Music. Two hours later, Viacom said its chief executive had been responding to a hypothetical question at an investment conference. The official line read: "Viacom is not in talks with EMI nor is contemplating the purchase."

Janet Bush reports on President Fujimori's high-risk fiscal strategy

Peru shows great powers of recovery after the Fujishock

Peru is the latest Latin American darling of Washington's neo-liberal economic establishment. After the rolling economic crisis of Alan Garcia's presidency in the 1980s, Alberto Fujimori, Peru's president, who is of Japanese descent, has force-fed the country a strong dose of free-market economics, winning the ultimate plaudit in 1993 of a three-year International Monetary Fund loan.

The so-called Fujishock, administered after President Fujimori won power in 1990, eliminated all subsidies, cut public spending, reformed the tax system, tore down barriers to trade and put Peru's companies and businesses on the privatisation block. On the surface, the economy's performance has been a dramatic endorsement of IMF-style neo-liberal policies.

Inflation, at more than 7,000 per cent at the turn of the decade, is now running at about 10 per cent, an extraordinary achievement. From the days when pay packets were worth nothing at the end of the journey home from work, the relative price stability is a huge economic bonus.

Peru has come far since President Garcia defied Western banks and the IMF, unilaterally putting a ceiling on its debt repayments and turning it into an international pariah. The country is now in negotiations for a Brady deal, in which it will issue bonds covering some of its debt in exchange for some debt relief. Talks with the Paris Club of creditors are to start soon.

Despite the Mexican currency debacle early this year, which hit investment to all Latin American countries, foreign capital flows have recovered somewhat, attracted to Peru by the kitchen-sink-and-all privatisation programme. Gross domestic product is expected to grow by around 8 per cent this year, making Peru by far the fastest-expanding Latin American country.

When the Mexican currency went belly-up, the IMF and the World Bank, which provided the free-market blueprint for reform, initially found it difficult to take any responsibility. The first reaction to Mexico's problems was to blame its leaders for not sticking to the IMF formula.

That charge cannot be made against President Fujimori, who has stuck to IMF dogma to the letter. As soon as he won power on an anti-austerity ticket, he did a breathtaking U-turn and imposed the toughest IMF-style programme seen on the continent. He even disbanded Congress in 1992 to stamp out growing opposition to his policies.

Despite plunging the country into deep recession and exacerbating already overwhelming poverty, President Fujimori was returned to power earlier this year by a landslide. No opposing candidate dared to suggest an alternative to the free market.



Fiscal tiger: Alberto Fujimori, whose austere regime has brought order out of chaos

Fred Levy, the World Bank's representative in Lima, is an out-and-out fan of Fujimori's Government — although government is a loose term for a regime in which power is so concentrated in the single person of the President. "They eat and sleep fiscal austerity," he said, with the wary disbelief of a man not used to such things on this continent. "There is little on the macro-economic front that they haven't already done. We need to do very little lecturing."

Once re-elected for a second five-year term, President Fujimori turned his attention to poverty alleviation and the building of a semblance of social infrastructure, with the World Bank cheering from the sidelines. Chastened by the political uprising in Mexico that led to the collapse in the peso, the bank's rhetoric — if not its diehard free marketeers working on the ground — now acknowledges that macro-economic reform without poverty relief is not sustainable.

President Fujimori recently promised that 50 per cent of his budget will be allocated to social spending and there is evidence of some of this money being spent. The Government is financing new sewerage systems, electrification and the provision of drinking water in many of the urban shanty towns that were the breeding ground of Sendero Luminoso, the Maoist guerrilla group that all but wrecked Peru's economy in the 1980s. Now the same process is beginning in the countryside, another important focus of Sendero recruitment and activity.

There is, however, an enormous amount still to do. The destruction wrought by terrorism — the World Bank estimates it meant a drop in per capita income of about 8 per cent between 1983 and 1990 — coupled with the massive austerity programme under Fujishock, has left society in a more or less permanent state of crisis, despite impressive macro-economic figures.

Since 1980, almost half of the economically active population of the capital, Lima, home to seven million of Peru's 23 million people, have left the formal economy to scratch a living from street trading — the so-called *ambulantes* who patrol the city's appalling traffic jams, touting three bars of soap or a stick of chewing gum.

On the day the Fujishock price rises were announced, the Lima shanty town of San Juan de Lurigancho saw the number of communal kitchens that feed the poor — the *comodores* — explode from 70 to 350 virtually overnight. In four months of that year, protein intake dropped by 30 per cent, according to Duncan Green, author of *Silent Revolution: The Rise of Market Economics in Latin America*.

Sebastian Edwards, the World Bank's chief Latin American economist, acknowledged that poverty in Peru has worsened, if anything. In 1982, figures show, 46 per cent of people were living below the poverty line; in 1989, under the Garcia presidency, that figure rose to 52 per cent; in 1992, under President Fujimori, the figure was 54 per cent.

Yet-to-be published studies suggest that this proportion has begun to fall sharply. But even the World Bank acknowledges that, across Latin American countries that have pursued its structural adjustment programmes, any improvement in poverty has come solely from lower inflation rather than from a genuine trickle-down of the benefits of faster economic growth and macro-economic stability.

President Fujimori must convince the electorate that he can deliver the social programmes he has promised. Crucially, he must convince foreign investors of continuing stability. The Fujimori strategy leaves Peru as vulnerable as Mexico was. His plan is crucially dependent on foreign capital, which can leave as quickly as it came. An overvalued exchange rate, an important tool in driving down inflation, has meant a burgeoning current account deficit as imports are sucked in by fast economic growth, threatening a Mexican crisis.

More disappointingly, for all the President's boasting of new exports such as asparagus, there is still an overwhelming reliance on the export of raw materials, subject to the vagaries of international commodity pricing.

There has been, as President Fujimori acknowledges, no perceptible job creation from the influx of foreign firms. The dollars come in and go out again as repatriated profits. There is little sign that indigenous Peruvian businesses are starting to semi-manufacture goods before exporting, the kind of activity that creates employment.

All this makes the strategy unsustainable, according to Javier Iguiniz, who is not wholly critical of the Fujimori approach but takes issue with its imbalanced nature.

The sol is overvalued, stacking the odds in favour of imports and against exporters. The reliance on foreign know-how and money means that the people do not participate in the fruits of growth. And there is too much emphasis on crisis management and keeping capital flowing in rather than genuine development: too much emphasis too on keeping inflation low at the expense of other economic goals.

Professor Iguiniz said: "Fujimori needs to abandon short-term anti-inflationary emergency measures and start thinking about long-term growth. Growth is the precondition for stability, not the other way around."

President Fujimori attracts considerable respect for his achievements from outside and within Peru. But the risk of failing to broaden economic recovery to create jobs and redistribute some wealth is that social unrest will flare up again, the President will become even more authoritarian, and the foreign investors on whose shoulders Peru's future is being pinned, will pull up stumps and go home.



RADIO CHOICE

Kitchen-sink drama reborn

The Monday Play: A Taste of Honey. *Radio 4, 7.45pm.*

First presented on stage, then on film and now on radio, Shelagh Delaney's play centres on a resilient teenager, her no-good mother and the young homosexual who cares for the girl when her black lover gets her pregnant and abandons her. I always knew *A Taste of Honey* had more cruelty in it than tenderness, but I had quite forgotten how liberally flecked with humour it is, and what a remarkable thing it was that Delaney was still in her teens when she wrote it. This, with a vengeance, is kitchen-sink drama. The action takes place in a dingy Manchester maisonette with a good view of the slaughterhouse. Julia Ford plays the girl, Nichola McAuliffe the mother, and Scott Ransome the caring friend. Highly recommended.

The Lipman Test. *Radio 4 FM, 10.00am.*

Maureen Lipman's chirpy series about hobby addicts ends with the makers and fliers of model aircraft. The obsession bites deeply into its victims. There is Mike who insisted that his baby son's first dummy should be aeroplane-shaped. There is Ian who will not have anything to do with any aircraft except jets ("when you're married to Marilyn Monroe, other girls look uninteresting!"). There is the chap whose models drop flour bombs in front of the judges at the Top Gun UK championships. And there is another model freak who, after painting his models with all the skill of a cosmetician, then dirties them up with dust to give them the weathered look. Peter Davalle

RADIO 1

FM Stereo. 4.00am Clive Warren 6.30 Chris Evans 9.00 Simon Mayo 12.00 Lisa I'Anson, incl at 12.30-12.45pm Newsbeat 2.00 Nicky Campbell 4.00 Mark Goodier, incl at 5.30-5.45 Newsbeat; 6.15 The Net 7.00 Evening Session 9.00 Apache Indian 10.00 Mark Radcliffe 12.00 Wendy Lloyd

RADIO 2

FM Stereo. 6.00am Sarah Kennedy 7.30 Wake Up to Wogan 9.15 Pause for Thought 9.30 Ken Bruce 11.30 Jimmy Young 2.00pm Debbie Thrower 3.30 Ed Stewart 5.05 John Dunn 7.00 Hubert Gregg 7.30 Malcolm Laycock, and at 8.00 50 Years of Ted Heath and His Music 8.30 Big Band Special 9.00 Humphrey Lyttelton 10.00 Enchanted Evenings 10.30 The Jamesons 12.05am Digby Fairweather 1.00 Steve Madden 3.00 Alex Lester

RADIO 5 LIVE

5.00am Morning Reports 6.00 The Breakfast Programme 8.35 The Magazine, incl at 10.35 Euronews; 11.05 Going Bananas 12.00 Midday with Mair; 12.34pm Moneycheck; 1.15 Entertainment News 2.05 Ruscoe on Five, incl at 2.35 Actuality; and at 3.45 Entertainment News 4.00 John Inverdale Nationwide, incl at 5.45 Entertainment News 7.00 News Extra, incl at 7.20 sport 7.35 Sportstrack. 1984 8.00 The Monday Match. Everton v West Ham 10.05 News Talk 11.00 Night Extra, incl at 11.15 The Financial World Tonight 12.05am The Other Side of Midnight 2.05 Up All Night

TALK RADIO

6.00am Sandy Warr 7.00 Simon Bates 10.00 Jonathan King 12.00 Tommy Boyd 2.00pm Anna Raeburn 4.00 Scott Chisholm and Lowri Turner 7.00 Sean Bolger 9.00 Moz Dee 10.00 James Whale 1.00-6.00am Ian Collins

WORLD SERVICE

All times in GMT. 5.00am Newsday 5.30 Europe 6.00 Newsday 6.30 Europe 7.00 News 7.15 *Middlemarch* 7.30 Vintage Chart 8.00 News 8.10 Words of Faith 8.15 The Greenfield Collection 9.00 News in German 9.15 Anything Goes 9.45 Sport 10.00 Newsdesk 10.30 BBC English 10.45 *Middlemarch* 11.00 Newsdesk 11.30 Omnibus 12.00 World News 12.05pm Business 12.15 Britain Today 12.30 Purcell's London 1.00 Newshour 2.00 World News 2.05 Outlook 2.30 John Peel 3.00 News in German 3.15 Concert Hall 4.00 News 4.15 The World Today 4.30 News in German 5.00 Europe 5.30 Business 5.45 Sport 6.00 Newsdesk 6.30 News in German 7.00 News 7.01 Outlook 7.25 Words of Faith 7.30 Multitrack: Hit List 8.00 Newshour 9.00 World News 9.05 World Business Report 9.15 Britain Today 9.30 Omnibus 10.00 Newsdesk 10.30 The World Today 10.45 Sport 11.00 News 11.10 Take Five 11.15 Ed Stewart 11.45 Development '95 Midnight Newsdesk 12.30am Folk Routes 12.45 Britain Today 1.00 World News 1.10 Press Review 1.15 Sinatra: A Master at Work 1.45 Health Matters 2.00 Newsday 2.30 Quote, Unquote 3.00 News 3.15 Sport 3.30 John Peel 4.00 Newsdesk 4.30 Europe Today

CLASSIC FM

4.00am Mark Griffiths 6.00 Nick Bailey 9.00 Henry Kelly 12.00 Susannah Simons 2.00pm Concerto 3.00 Jamie Crick 6.00 Newsnight 6.30 Sonata 7.00 A to Z of Classical Music 8.00 Evening Concert 10.00 Michael Mappin 1.00am Sally Peterson

VIRGIN RADIO

6.00am Russ 'n' Jono's Breakfast Experience 9.00 Richard Skinner 12.00 Graham Dene 4.00pm Nicky Horne 7.30 Paul Coyte 10.00 Mark Forrest 2.00-6.00am Robin Banks

RADIO 3

6.00am **On Air.** Beethoven (Symphony No 8 in F); Reicha (Clarinet Quintet in B flat); Howells (Magnificat, St Paul's Service); Mozart (Symphony in D); 8.05 Strauss (Overture, Dance Scene, Ariadne auf Naxos); Poulenc (Elegie for two pianos)
9.00 **Morning Collection with Paul Gambaccini.** Nielsen (Rhapsody Overture, An Imaginary Trip to the Faroe Islands); Beethoven (Violin Sonata in A); Beethoven (Symphony No 1 in C)
10.00 **Musical Encounters**, with Chris de Souza. Byrd (Laudate pueri a 6); Purcell (Suite No 1 in G); Mendelssohn (Sonata in A); Foulds (Three Mantras); Bach (Schmucke dich, O liebe Seele); 10.55 Vaughan Williams (Three Shakespeare Songs); Chopin (Sonata No 3); Parry (I was glad); Mozart (Piano Concerto No 23 in A)
12.00 **Composer of the Week:** Aaron Copland (Dance Symphony; As it fell upon a day; Piano Concerto)
1.00pm **BBC Lunchtime Concert**, live from St John's, Smith Square, London. Medici Quartet performs Janáček (String Quartet No 2, Intimate Letters); Haydn (String Quartet in E flat, Joke)
2.00 **The BBC Orchestras.** BBC Philharmonic under Vassily Sinaisky performs Wagner (Die Walküre, Act 1, Götterdämmerung, excerpts)
3.45 **Fairest Isle: Oxbridge Organs.** The first of six recitals from the chapels of Oxford and Cambridge colleges. Peter Hurford plays the chapel organ at Trinity College, Cambridge
4.30 **You Take Some Skins** (r)
5.00 **The Music Machine in Chicago**, with Tommy Pearson
5.15 **In Tune.** MacCunn (Overture, The Land of the Mountain and the Flood); Tchaikovsky (Nocturne); Mozart (Horn Concerto No 3 in E flat)
7.30 **London Philharmonic Orchestra** under Franz Welser Möst, with Rolf Hind, piano, perform Sibelius (Finlandia); Ruders (Piano Concerto); Sibelius (Symphony No 1)
9.00 **Lumière's Children.** The first of five programmes this week exploring the impact of art and technology on film looks at how the camera and the language of film evolved
9.25 **Edinburgh International Festival 1995.** Nadine Denize, mezzo; Ensemble Intercontemporain under Pierre Boulez performs Berg (Four Pieces for clarinet and piano); Webern (Concerto for nine instruments; Five Pieces for small orchestra); Mahler, arr Schoenberg (Lieder eines fahrenden Gesellen); Schoenberg (Lied der Waldtaube, Gurrelieder; Chamber Symphony No 1, second version)
10.45 **Mixing It.** Recordings by Disobey
11.30-12.30am **Ensemble.** Lynsey Marsh, clarinet, Louise Hopkins, cello, Thomas Ades, piano, perform Birtwistle (Linoi); Stravinsky (Three Pieces for solo clarinet); Sibelius (Malinconia); Brahms (Trio in A minor)

RADIO 4

5.55am Shipping (LW only) 6.00 News, incl 6.03 Weather 6.10 Farming Today 6.25 Prayer for the Day 6.30 Today, incl 6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30 News 6.55, 7.55 Weather 7.25, 8.25 Sports News 7.45 Thought for the Day 8.40 One Year On 8.58 Weather
9.00 **News 9.05 Start the Week**, presented by Melvyn Bragg and Kate Saunders. With Tom Stoppard, Michael Frayn, Peter York and Louise Chunn
10.00-10.30 **The Lipman Test** (FM only). See Choice
10.00 **News; Daily Service** (LW)
10.15 **This Sceptr'd Isle** (LW only)
10.30 **Woman's Hour.** Jenni Murray meets the performance artist Patience Agbabi
11.30 **Money Box Live: 0171-580 4444**
12.00 **News; You and Yours**
12.25pm **Who Goes There?** Martin Young, Fred Housego and Francis Wheen delve into the lives of the rich and famous
12.55 Weather
1.00 **The World at One**
1.40 **The Archers** (r) 1.55 Shipping Forecast
2.00 **News; The Monday Play: Johnny Sheehy**, by Christopher Fitz-Simon. An amusing reworking of Puccini's *Gianni Schicci*, relocated to West Cork at the turn of the century. A wealthy farmer dies, leaving his money to a local monastery. However, his family hire a local rogue and story-teller to impersonate the dead man and to redictate the will to an out-of-town lawyer. With Dermot Crowley and Clare Cathcart
3.00 **The Afternoon Shift**
4.00 **News 4.05 Kaleidoscope.** David Cassidy talks about his role in Willy Russell's *Blood Brothers*
4.45 **Short Story: The Archbishop's Egg**, written and read by Lawrence Scott. A cautionary tale from Trinidad begins a week of stories by leading Caribbean writers
5.00 **PM 5.50** Shipping Forecast 5.55 Weather
6.00 **News 6.30 I'm Sorry I Haven't a Clue** (r)
7.00 **News 7.05 The Archers**
7.20 **The Food Programme** (r)
7.45 **The Monday Play: A Taste of Honey**, by Shelagh Delaney. See Choice
9.15 **Whose Freedom Is It Anyway?** As a member of the all-woman group Dybbuk, Pavla Slaba had to contend with officialdom and censorship as she tried to perform her music in Czechoslovakia. Now she has a new band, and a new life (4/5)
9.30 **Kaleidoscope** (r) 9.59 Weather
10.00 **The World Tonight**
10.45 **Book at Bedtime: The Go-Between**, by L P Hartley. Read by John Rowe (1/10)
11.00-11.30 **Echoes** (FM only) (r)
11.00 **Education Matters** (FM only)
11.30-12.00 **Great Escapes** (FM only): Escape from Norman Cross (3/4) (r)
11.30 **Today in Parliament** (LW)
12.00 **News**, incl 12.27am Weather
12.30 **The Late Book: Sucking Sherbert Lemons**, David Holt reads Michael Carson's novel (6/10)
12.48 Shipping Forecast 1.00 As World Service

FREQUENCY GUIDE. RADIO 1. FM 97.6-99.8, RADIO 2. FM 88.0-90.2. RADIO 3. FM 90.2-92.4. RADIO 4. FM 92.4-94.6; LW 198; MW 720. RADIO 5 LIVE. MW 693, 909. WORLD SERVICE. MW 648; LW 198 (12.45-5.55am). CLASSIC FM. FM 100-102. VIRGIN RADIO. FM 105.8; MW 1197, 1215. TALK RADIO UK. MW 1053, 1089. Television and radio listings compiled by Peter Dear, Gillian Maxey, Rosemary Smith and Susan Thomson

هكذا من الأصل

A weekend that was anything but wild

A little general knowledge can be a bit of a curse to the viewer, especially when trying to make **Raise the Roof** (ITV) part of a relaxing Saturday. "Atlanta!" you shout, between mouthfuls of dinner. "Atlanta!" Two men with big frowns and murderous haircuts sit sweating in booths, with absolutely no idea where the Olympics will be held next year. "Atlanta!" you shout for the third time. But it is no use. Earlier in this show, Bob Holness asked, "What is to Superman what Bruce Wayne is to Batman?" And the answer came, BUZZ "Kryptonite" — which was a lot more sad than it was funny.

Saturday was a big night on commercial television. **Jack Dee's Saturday Night** suddenly put ITV back on the map — an old-style live variety show from a big theatre in Granadaland, ranging from *Coronation Street* stars singing *I Remember it Well* (wild applause), to Lee Evans giving three minutes, and Robert Palmer doing an astounding one-number-and-off. Dee introduced the whole thing with some memorable impressions of a cat coughing up furballs, and effortlessly exchanged his Channel 4 persona (spiv night-club host, with drink) for a shot at Mister Popular Entertainer, à la Bruce Forsyth. The only problem with *Jack Dee's Saturday Night* was that it made you think "Why am I such a sad case, then — indoors watching telly?" Which is too heavy a lifestyle question for a Saturday night and may explain why large audiences persist in watching *Casualty* (BBC1) — to reassure themselves that real life has nothing better.

Back at *Raise the Roof*, however, the winning contestant did not go home to a new house in the Cotswolds worth £80,000. In his final round, he scored insufficient points, and got £2,005 and a consolation prize. What a letdown. At the mention of this consolation prize, he looked pathetically hopeful, possibly suspecting a bungalow, or a shed. Even a car-port would have been acceptable at this stage. But the consolation prize was a leather sofa and it was to his great credit that he didn't burst into tears. As the show ended, and his wife dabbed her eyes, something seemed dodgy about this outcome, though it was hard to put one's finger on it. The main function of popular television is to make dreams come true, so how can they send this man home without a house? It makes the whole contest a waste of time.

Last night's rather dull **Equinox** (Channel 4) concerned a pair of hip, modern British designers, and was one of those programmes that thinks it's OK to repeat the same bit of Troggs

REVIEW



Lynne Truss

record ("Wild Thang! You make my heart sang!") every single bloody time a motorbike appears on screen. Richard Seymour and Dick Powell, who presumably tossed a coin for "Dick" when they realised they'd be locked in partnership, addressed different design problems, and Seymour's mission was the relaunch of the BSA Bantam ("Wild Thang!"). There is only ever one chance to relaunch a great product, he said. If you get it wrong, you ruin even the memory of the original.

He got on quite well with the bike ("Wild Thang!") but I kept wondering about the universal application of the one-chance theory. It certainly doesn't apply to television, in which the same thing is continually reinvented year on year. The variety show, for example. Dick Emery comes back as Steve Coogan; Norman Wisdom as Lee Evans. Peter Ustinov comes back as himself, and everyone is delighted. In fact it was possible to nod off during last night's **An Evening with Sir Peter Ustinov** (BBC1) and wake up convinced it was 1965.

Such innocent entertainment, and so well timed. *The Beatles Anthology* has lately been reminding us of an era when nobody travelled abroad except vicariously through Paul McCartney. But we always had Ustinov, didn't we, to remind us that Europe and America were accessible to that rare creature, Multilingual Man. Last night's one-man show, delivered to an enthusiastic audience from a London stage, began with the assurance that it was a well-oiled act already popular around the world. Which explained why the reference to Margate included the residual explanation: "Margate on the east coast of England".

Ustinov's show concludes on Tuesday night and is a lot more fun than *Raise the Roof*. Oddly, he still brings news from 1950s Hollywood: he tells stories about filming *Spartacus*: after decades of practice, his impersonation of Charles Laughton is immaculate. And why not? It doesn't matter, surely, that Laughton has been dead these 30 years, or that the anecdotes are smoothed and whitened by the sands of time. Every so often, in Ustinov's act, one caught an ephemeral glimpse of a leather chair and a twinkly man with sideburns adjusting his fringe and kipper tie. It was Michael Parkinson, there in spirit.

Finally, with so many other repeat performances going on, the old **Trials of Life** (BBC2) was yesterday irresistible. It concerned animal courtship rituals and included an Australian bird with a mating dance so seductive that I was rather tempted to marry him myself. Tidy personal habits, too. Typically, David Attenborough concentrated on the male display and not the female response, which obviously must vary. The female blue-footed booby doubtless dreams of romance on her icy cliff, but what does she get? A seagull showing her his big blue feet. "Look," he says. "Here's a big one. And here's another." And she looks around at the colony and thinks with a sinking heart, "Good grief, you men are all the same".

BBC1

6.00am Business Breakfast (86169)
7.00 BBC Breakfast News (47990275)
9.10 Kilroy (s) (1443035)
10.00 News (Ceefax) (4568071)
10.05 Can't Cook, Won't Cook (s) (1086102)
10.30 Good Morning with Anne and Nick (s) (88459)
12.00 News (Ceefax) regional news and weather (8610053) **12.05pm Pebble Mill** (s) (5866985) **12.50 Regional News** and weather (64705430)
1.00 One O'Clock News (Ceefax) and weather (65527)
1.30 Neighbours (Ceefax) (s) (36315237) **1.55 Knots Landing** (s) (8264576) **2.40 The Clothes Show** (r) (Ceefax) (s) (2345701)
3.05 Timekeepers (s) (6842508)
3.30 Postman Pat (r) (3814256) **3.45 Dear Mr Barker** (s) (3802411) **4.00 Alvin and the Chipmunks** (r) (8949411) **4.15 Phantom 2040** (Ceefax) (s) (1981633) **4.35 Grange Hill** (r) (Ceefax) (s) (1244343)
5.00 Newsround (Ceefax) (3678850) **5.10 Blue Peter** (Ceefax) (s) (8043879)
5.35 Neighbours (r) (Ceefax) (s) (107053)
6.00 Six O'Clock News (Ceefax) and weather (546)
6.30 Regional News magazines (898)
7.00 Telly Addicts. Noel Edmonds hosts the final of the quiz show for television fanatics (Ceefax) (s) (1091)
7.30 Watchdog. Anne Robinson presents the consumer magazine (Ceefax) (s) (782)
8.00 EastEnders. A nasty shock awaits Ricky on his return from Paris; Cindy is back with a vengeance; Mark undertakes some private investigations and Pauline wonders if Arthur might be losing his grip. (Ceefax) (s) (7411)
8.30 The Thin Blue Line. With Rowan Atkinson (Ceefax) (s) (6546)
9.00 Nine O'Clock News (Ceefax) regional news and weather (7256)
9.30 Panorama (Ceefax) (952850)
10.10 Cheff Comedy series with Lenny Henry (r) (Ceefax) (s) (906530) **WALES: 10.10** CyberWales (906530) **10.40** Cheff (744237) **11.10** Film 95 with Barry Norman (316459) **11.40** Film: Marathon Man (613140) **1.40am-1.45** News headlines and weather (2277909)
10.40 Film 95 With Barry Norman. Including reviews of Babe, a live action version of Dick King-Smith's children's classic about a pig who thinks he is a sheepdog; the animation The Swan Princess, with John Cleese's voice; and Three Wishes, with Patrick Swayze as a drifter who transforms the life of a family in turmoil (Ceefax) (s) (744237)



Dustin Hoffman and Roy Scheider (11.10pm)

11.10 FILM: Marathon Man (1976) with Dustin Hoffman and Laurence Olivier. When two elderly men are killed in New York in mysterious circumstances, a graduate student finds himself thrown into a confrontation with a grim, former Nazi concentration camp killer. Adapted by William Golding from his own novel. Directed by John Schlesinger (Ceefax) (86798140)
1.15am Weather (2972560)

BBC2

6.00am Technology Season
7.00 Breakfast News (Signing) (9131188)
7.15 Lassie (9110695) **7.35 Swat Kats** (r) (s) (7758633) **8.00 Blue Peter** (r). (Ceefax) (s) (2136985) **8.25 Songs Of Praise** (r). (Ceefax) (s) (9820053) **9.00 Hellfire Pass** (r) (3333508) **9.50 A Week To Remember** (b/w) (3107140) **10.00 Playdays** (r) (s) (2436643) **10.25 FILM:Half Shot at Sunrise** (1930, b/w). First World War comedy (8780362)
11.40 The Fugitive (b/w) (r) (Ceefax) (4511343) **12.30pm Working Lunch** (52463) **1.00 William's Wish Wellingtons** (r) (s) (26152695) **1.05 Fireman Sam** (r) (48989633) **1.15 Movie Magic** (r) (44531411) **1.40 Even More Of Glynn Christian's Entertaining Microwave.** Vegetable dishes (s) (15528343)
1.55 NEW **Understanding Cats** with cat expert Roger Tabor (15518966)
2.10 Holiday Outings. Tuscany (76899695)
2.15 FILM: Scandal in a Small Town (1988) starring Raquel Welch (Ceefax) (353053) **3.55 News** (Ceefax) and weather (9615411) **4.00 Today's the Day** (s) (411) **4.30 Ready, Steady, Cook** (s) (695) **5.00 Esther** (s) (6169) **5.30 Floyd On Italy** (r) (Ceefax) (275)
6.00 Space Precinct. (Ceefax) (s) (602017)
6.45 The O Zone. Jane Middlemiss introduces a special feature on Boyzone (s) (604782)
7.00 REPEAT **Westminster Behind Closed Doors, with Tony Benn.** (s) (298121)
7.50 Human Rights, Human Wrongs: Summary Executions. The Chilean writer Isabel Allende counts the human cost of the increasing use by some governments of summary execution, without arrests, charges or a trial (s) (265237)
8.00 REPEAT **Horizon: The Runaway Mountain.** (Ceefax) (s) (441527)
8.50 Lucinda Lambton's Alphabet Of Britain. *O is for Opulent Endings.* (r). (Ceefax) (s) (581072)
9.00 The X Files: Colony. Science-fiction drama series (r). (Ceefax) (s) (225091)



Janet Street-Porter launches LIVE TV (9.45pm)

9.45 NEW **Nightmare at Canary Wharf:** A year in the life of Janet Street-Porter (987411)
10.30 Newsnight. (Ceefax) (283527)
11.15 Picture This: The Worst Job in the World. (r) (Ceefax) (s) (808169)
11.45 Human Rights, Human Wrongs (r) (515053) **11.55 Weather** (592237)
12.00 Midnight Hour With Sir Bernard Ingham. Political chat show (s) (20473)
12.30am-6.00 The Learning Zone

VideoPlus+ and the Video PlusCodes
The numbers next to each TV programme listing are Video PlusCode™ numbers, which allow you to programme your video recorder instantly with a VideoPlus+™ handset. VideoPlus+ can be used with most videos. Tap in the Video PlusCode for the programme you wish to record. For more details call VideoPlus on 0839 121204 (calls cost 39p/min cheap rate, 49p/min at other times) or write to VideoPlus+, Acorntax Ltd, 5 Ivory House, Plantation Wharf, London SW11 3TN. Videoplus+ (™), Pluscode (™) and Video Programmer are trademarks of Gemstar Development Ltd.

CHOICE



Tony Benn is our guide to Parliament (BBC2, 7.00pm)

Westminster Behind Closed Doors, with Tony Benn
BBC2, 7.00pm

Tony Benn's personal video of the Palace of Westminster is part guided tour and part polemic. He takes his text from one of his own Commons speeches: "If Parliament is to survive, it must be a workshop and not a museum." Yet museum, given seven centuries of history, it cannot help being, and Benn is not averse to all its exhibits. You feel that he is more of a traditionalist that he lets on, as he admires the craftsmanship of the parliamentary bookbinder and the subtle machinery that runs the Victorian sewage system. He is also half-admiring of parliamentary ceremony but he has no time for the House of Lords and reminds us that it was due to him that peers are able to renounce their titles.

Horizon: The Runaway Mountain
BBC2, 8.00pm

Conventional rockfalls deposit a pile of rocks at the foot of a cliff and that is that. But there is another type of landslide, the subject of this film, in which rocks flow like water, spreading like the fingers of a hand and run away for miles. The phenomenon is hardly new. One of the examples quoted here, a collapse of rock from Hawaii that created a tidal wave which flooded the coast of Australia, happened 105,000 years ago. Only recently, however, have scientists started to study "long-runout landslides" and sought to explain how rock moves so fast and so far. It seems that Hawaii could soon be making geological history again, with reverberations that will be felt not only in Australia this time but in the United States and Japan.

Nightmare At Canary Wharf
BBC2, 9.45pm

Challenge Anneka turns into *Challenge Janet* as Janet Street-Porter tries to set up Britain's first live, 24-hour television station. Street-Porter may not travel round in a buggy but she has the same battle against lack of time and resources. In the *Challenge Anneka* style, Robert Thirkell's film ticks off the remaining weeks to the launch. Amid much effing and blinding, Street-Porter sets up her office, appoints staff and tries to convince her bosses at Mirror Group Newspapers than all is well. The bosses gain a late recruit in Kelvin MacKenzie, former Editor of *The Sun*. Ominously, he says that if LIVE TV is a flop, things will have to change. That the outcome is public knowledge does not detract from a merciless exercise in dog eating dog.

Clive James Goes Country
ITV, 9.00pm

For his second documentary in a week Clive James employs that well-tried television format of the novice trying to become an expert in an impossibly short time. Chris Serle and Paul Heiney, Pauline Quirke and Linda Robson have been this way before, and the routine rarely fails. James goes to Nashville, Tennessee, capital of country music, where he sets himself the task of writing and recording a song good enough to fool the experts. The joke is that James the singer is only marginally less bad than James the guitar player. But recording technology can make up for a lot. Along the way James seeks help and advice from country veterans Chet Atkins and Tammy Wynette.
Peter Waymark

CARLTON

6.00am GMTV (8678324)
9.25 Supermarket Sweep (s) (8756324)
9.55 London Today (Teletext) (9086922)
10.00 The Time . . . The Place (s) (2525091)
10.35 This Morning. Magazine show (28569817)
12.20pm London Today (Teletext) (8616237)
12.30 ITN Lunchtime News (Teletext) and weather (2474275)
12.55 Home and Away (Teletext) (2459966) **1.25 Coronation Street** (r) (Teletext) (6536072) **2.25 Blue Heelers** (9781053)
3.20 ITN News headlines (Teletext) (8180985) **3.25 London Today** (Teletext) and weather (8189256)
3.30 The Slow Norris (s) (3818072) **3.40 Tots TV** (s) (6086053) **3.50 Wolves, Witches and Giants** (s) (3829188) **4.05 Scooty and Co** (s) (9628985) **4.30 Taz-Mania** (1256188) **4.50 How 2** with Fred Dinenage, Carol Vorderman and Gareth Jones (1848140)
5.10 After 5 with Mary Nightingale (Teletext) (2561256)
5.40 ITN News (Teletext) and weather (471275)
5.55 Your Shout. Viewers air their opinions (385985)
6.00 Home and Away (r) (Teletext) (614)
6.30 London Tonight (Teletext) (986)
7.00 Wish You Were Here . . . ? Judith Chalmers visits the Great Wall of China, the Terracotta Army and the Imperial Palace; while John Carter takes a city break in Florence; and Anna Walker goes skiing and snowboarding in the spa town of Bareges, in the French Pyrenees (Teletext) (3459)
7.30 Coronation Street. (Teletext) (850)
8.00 Bruce's Price Is Right. Members of the studio audience get the chance to guess the price of the prizes (Teletext) (s) (9879)
8.30 World in Action (Teletext) (s) (1614)



Clive James in Nashville, Tennessee (9.00pm)

9.00 REPEAT **Clive James Goes Country** (Teletext) (s) (8850)
10.00 News at Ten (Teletext) and weather (89072)
10.30 London Tonight (Teletext) and weather (946614)
10.40 The Good Sex Guide Abroad (Teletext) (s) (762633)
11.10 Hunter: Down and Under. Hunter travels to Australia to track down the suspects in a Los Angeles murder investigation. (526879)
12.10am Short Story Cinema: Texan. A thriller by David Mamet about a retired fighter pilot who suspects his beautiful wife of playing the field. (3098183)
12.40 Endsleigh League Extra (7916386)
1.30 Sport AM (2272021)
2.25 Quiz Night The final (6683560)
2.55 FILM:The Odd Job (1978) starring Graham Chapman, David Jason and Diana Quick. Directed by Peter Medak (6879638)
4.20 On the Live Side (r) (s) (31423386)
4.35 Best of British Motorsport (54936522)
5.00 The Chrystal Rose Show (r) (s) (59522)
5.30 ITN Morning News (25928). Ends at **6.00**

CHANNEL 4

6.30am Ulysses 31 (48362)
7.00 The Big Breakfast. With Derek Griffiths (48850)
9.00 FILM: One in a Million (1936) starring Sonja Henie in her Hollywood debut as a would-be Olympic skater who is promoted to stardom. With Don Ameche. Directed by Sidney Lanfield (11793362)
10.45 Sonja Henie: An Intimate Portrait of the Queen of the Ice By the time skater Sonja Henie retired, at 24, she had amassed three Olympic golds, ten World Championships and six European Championships (s) (5416121)
11.50 David Dutch animation (6406527)
12.00 Crawshaw's Sketching and Drawing Course (Teletext) (s) (86985)
12.30pm Sesame Street with Tracey Ullman (62546)
1.30 Gumdrop (36331275) **1.55 Sumodo** (96250324)
2.15 FILM: Walk East on Beacon (1952, b/w). Spy thriller starring George Murphy. Directed by Alfred Werker (Teletext) (362701)
4.00 Think Tank. Quiz. (Teletext) (s) (879)
4.30 Fifteen to One. Quiz. (Teletext) (s) (661)
5.00 Love in the Afternoon (Teletext) (s) (3072)
6.00 The Cosby Show (r) (Ceefax) (256)
6.30 Hollyoaks. Phil Reedmond's Chester-based teen soap (Teletext) (s) (508)
7.00 Channel 4 News (937508)
7.55 The Slot. For viewers with bees in their bonnets (268324)
8.00 Inside Out: Whose School is it Anyway? Sahera Khan is deaf, yet she attends her local comprehensive school and, through an interpreter, she takes a full part in mainstream National Curriculum classes. This is disabled education as it is officially meant to be. However, there are many disabled children still under-achieving at Special Schools, which were meant to have been replaced (Teletext) (s) (2891)
8.30 Porkpie (Teletext) (s) (9256)



John Grear, MD, faces the board (9.00pm)

9.00 The Factory: So You Want Another Quarter of a Million . . . The documentary-soap about the workforce of a Liverpool gas fire factory. Even though the company has produced the first batch of its Firedance project and passed its British Gas examination, problems are queueing up (227459)
9.45 Holy Places. A look at the Metro Centre in Gateshead (Teletext) (s) (741633)
10.00 The Strike (8303121)
11.15 The American Football Big Match featuring the San Francisco 49ers v Carolina Panthers and Pittsburgh Steelers v Oakland Raiders (822140)
12.30am Trans World Sport (54102)
1.30 Let The Blood Run Free. A surprise visitor puts a smile on matron's face (r) (s) (2231367)
1.55 FILM: Out on the Edge (1989) starring Rick Schroder as a troubled teenager who, feeling he has been abandoned by his divorced parents, is committed to a psychiatric hospital. With Mary Kay Place and Dakin Matthews. Directed by John Pasquin (142812). Ends at **3.35**

VARIATIONS

ANGLIA
As London except: 12.55 Coronation Street (1678459) **5.10-5.40** Shortland Street (2561256) **6.25** Anglia Weather (368343) **6.30-7.00** Anglia News (966) **10.30** Anglia News (946614) **10.40** Cover Story (762633) **11.10-11.40** The Good Sex Guide Abroad (301527) **1.25am** Film: Perfect People (478588) **3.10** Sport AM (7604454) **4.05** Best of British Motorsport (90495763) **4.30** The Time... the Place (93454) **5.00** The Real Ghostbusters (59522)

CENTRAL
As London except: 5.10-5.40 Shortland Street (2561256) **6.25-7.00** Central News and Weather (357053) **11.10** Crime Story (5268879) **12.10am** Sledge Hammer (3096183) **4.20** Jobfinder (9441270) **5.20** Asian Eye (1076184)

GRANADA
As London except: 12.55-1.25 Shortland Street (2459966) **1.25** Home and Away (89411053) **1.50** Murder, She Wrote (8057411) **2.50-3.20** Gardeners' Diary (5602896) **5.10-5.40** A Country Practice (2561256) **6.25-7.00** Granada Tonight (357053) **11.10** The Sporting Press (648685) **11.25** There's Only One Brian Moore (540459) **12.25am-12.40** Pop Profile (8542744) **4.20-4.35** Jobfinder (31423386)

HTV WEST
As London except: 12.55 Coronation Street (7014237) **2.20-3.20** Side Effects (4513879) **3.25-3.30** HTV West Headlines (8189256) **5.10-5.40** Yan Can Cook (2561256) **6.30-7.00** HTV News (966) **10.40** The West Story (782633) **11.10** Canvas (301527) **11.40** Spotlight (990695) **12.10am** Roadrunner (3098183) **4.20** Jobfinder (31423386)

HTV WALES
As HTV WEST except: 5.10-5.40 The Electric Chair (2561256) **6.30-7.00** Wales Tonight (966) **10.45** Classical Gas (874362) **11.45** Magnum (527633)

MERIDIAN
As London except: 9.55am-10.00 Meridian News and Weather (9086922) **12.20pm-12.30** Meridian News and Weather (86162237) **12.55** Coronation Street (1678459) **3.25-3.30** Meridian News and Weather (8189256) **5.10** Home and Away (2561256) **5.37-5.40** Three Minutes - The Listings (365121) **6.00** Meridian Tonight (614) **6.30-7.00** A Tale of Three Seaside Towns (966) **10.30** Meridian News (837988) **10.45** The Pier (748053) **11.10** The Listings (911188) **11.15** The Good Sex Guide Abroad (955695) **11.45** Beyond Reason (894966) **12.15am** Beyond Reality (6156522) **1.25** Film: Perfect People (478588) **3.10** Sport AM (7604454) **4.05** Best of British Motorsport (90495763) **4.30** The Time... the Place (93454) **5.00** Freeamen (59522)

WESTCOUNTRY
As London except: 9.55-10.00 Westcountry News (9086922) **12.20pm-12.30** Westcountry News (8625985) **12.25-12.30** My Christmas Story (8624256) **12.55** Coronation Street (1678459) **2.20** High Road (18124343) **2.50-3.20** Gardeners' Diary (5602896) **3.25-3.30** Westcountry News (8189256) **5.10-5.40** Home and Away (2561256) **6.00-7.00** Westcountry Live (12896) **11.10** Fair's Fair (301527) **4.25am** Jobfinder (31423386)

YORKSHIRE
As London except: 9.55-10.00 Calendar News and Weather (9086922) **12.20pm-12.30** Calendar News and Weather (86162237) **12.55** Coronation Street (1678459) **2.20** An Invitation to Remember (18124343) **2.50** Help Yourself (3970904) **2.55-3.20** Shortland Street (2320492) **3.25-3.30** Yorkshire: Calendar News / Bladelet Network North (8189256) **5.10-5.40** Home and Away (2561256) **5.55** Calendar / Network North (6446665) **6.30-7.00** The Dales Diary (966) **10.30** Calendar News and Weather (946614) **10.40** New Voices: Grimm (7626633) **11.10** The Good Sex Guide Abroad (301527) **11.40** Prisoner Cell Block H (5283362) **12.35am** Endsleigh League Extra (7408993) **1.20** Film: Angela (7961102) **2.45** The New Music (247183) **3.45** On the Live Side (55763) **4.15** Jobfinder (6390838)

S4C
Starts: 7.00 The Big Breakfast (48850) **9.00** Film: One in A Million (11793362) **10.45** Sonja Henie: An Intimate Portrait Of The Queen Of Ice (5416121) **11.50** David (6406527) **12.00pm** Right to Reply (86965) **12.30** Medaline (95121) **1.00** Sbot Metrinn (58237) **1.30** Crawshaw's Sketching And Drawing Course (84492) **2.00** Film: A Father's Homecoming (979071) **3.50** Mini Men (6080679) **4.00** Think Tank (879) **4.30** Simply The Best (661) **5.00** 5 Pump: Rownd A Rownd (3601188) **5.10** 5 Pump: Flat (3690072) **5.20** 5 Pump: Tachebant (6785275) **5.30** Fifteen To One (343) **6.00** Newyddion (886017) **6.15** Hano (515562) **7.00** Pobol Y Cwm (948898) **7.25** Y Byd Ar Bedwar (955904) **8.00** Fo A Fe: Y Nyrsat (2897) **8.30** Newyddion (9256) **9.00** Homicide — Life On The Streets (6492) **10.00** Sgono (8303121) **11.15** The American Football Big Match (822140) **12.30am** Frasier (89638) **1.00** Porkpie (272011) **1.30** Inside Out. Whose School Is It Anyway? (31102)

SATELLITE

● For more comprehensive listings of satellite and cable channels, see the Vision supplement, published Saturday

SKY ONE
7.00am The DJ Kat Show (85241) **8.00** Power Rangers (27256) **8.30** Press Your Luck (28627) **9.00** Court TV (17679) **9.30** Oprah Winfrey (19527) **10.30** Concentration (39091) **11.00** Sally Jessy Raphael (14817) **12.00** Jeopardy (20343) **12.30pm** Designing Women (46879) **1.00** The Waltons (67362) **2.00** Geraldo (50121) **3.00** Court TV (2506) **3.30** Oprah Winfrey (8673169) **4.30** Undun (3729614) **4.45** Kipper Tripper (5805633) **5.00** The Next Generation (6188) **6.00** The Simpsons (5324) **6.30** Jeopardy (9904) **7.00** LAPD (7817) **7.30** M*A*S*H (5188) **8.00** Saturday Night, Sunday Morning (3237) **8.30** Revelations (5072) **9.00** Police Rescue (84053) **10.00** The Next Generation (87140) **11.00** Law and Order (85782) **12.00** David Letterman (8275367) **12.45am** The Untouchables (6822218) **1.30** Eagle Hunt Gunn (59183) **2.00-6.00** Hit Mix (7125909)

SKY NEWS
News on the hour.
6.00am Sunrise (11190343) **10.10** CBS 60 Minutes (4888879) **11.00** News and Business (553985) **1.30pm** CBS News (83850) **2.30** Parliament (67051) **3.30** Parliament (7783) **4.00** News and Business (79633) **5.00** Live at Five (824492) **6.30** Adam Boulton (87456904) **8.10** CBS 60 Minutes (922643) **9.00** News and Business (214324) **11.30** CBS News (55865) **12.30am** ABC News (74980) **1.30** Adam Boulton (7726021) **2.10** CBS 60 Minutes (5423680) **3.30** Parliament Replay (16812) **4.30** CBS News (64812) **5.30-6.00** ABC News (76676)

SKY MOVIES
6.00am Showcase (23362) **8.00 The Big Steal** (1949) (38231695) **9.50 The Wonderful World of the Brothers Grimm** (1962) (88308701) **12.00 The Pertectionist** (1986) (64324) **2.00pm No Nukes** (1980) (78492) **4.00 The Hideaways** (1973) (1492) **6.00 French Silk** (1993) (44695) **7.30 Close-Up: Robin Williams and Cast on Mrs Doubtfire** (3578) **8.00 No Escape** (1993) (93701) **10.00 The Real Mccoy** (1993) (204121) **11.50 Boxing Helena** (1993) (507140) **1.35am Shanghai Surprise** (1986) (786270) **3.10 Mensonge** (1992) **4.35-6.00 The Big Steal** (1949) (6693270)

SKY MOVIES GOLD
4.00pm Stage Door (1937) (6362) **6.00 Seven Brides for Seven Brothers** (1954) (54850) **8.00 Red Scorpion** (1989) (56695) **10.00 Police Academy 2: Their First Assignment** (1985) (740508) **11.35 Native Son** (1986) (333527) **1.30-3.30am The Chess Players** (1977) (47027)

THE MOVIE CHANNEL
6.00am Gunga Din (1939) (21904) **8.00 Lionheart** (91140) **9.00 Robinson Crusoe** (1972) (50256) **10.00 Innocent Moves** (1980) (48237) **12.00 Footlight Parade** (1933) (62956) **2.00pm Rebecca of Sunnybrook Farm** (1938) (66102) **4.00 Lionheart** (64701) **5.00 Robinson Crusoe** (1972) (9886) **6.00 No Dessert Dad, 'til You Mow the Lawn** (1993) (96886) **8.00 Innocent Moves** (1980) (91343) **10.00 The Dark Half** (1992) (52064850) **12.05am Mad Dog and Glory** (1993) (648183) **1.45 Beyond Suspicion** (1993) (704676) **3.25-5.25 Black Fox** (1994) (30780780)

THE DISNEY CHANNEL
Sky Movies Gold from 10pm to 4am.
6.00am Under the Umbrella Tree (45511053) **8.30** Muppet Babies (33523492) **7.00** Winnie the Pooh (36386850) **7.30** Ducktale (36305985) **8.00** Chip 'n' Dale (29768782) **8.30** Adventures in Wonderland (29787053) **9.00** Fraggle Rock (29781633) **9.30** Pooh Corner (69508237) **10.00** Dumbo's Circus (33547072) **10.30** Quack Attack (29787817) **11.00** The Best of Walt Disney Presents (36314633) **12.00** FILM: Tuttles of Tahiti (82298140) **1.35pm** The Small One (83792701) **2.00** Adventures in Wonderland (70334343) **2.30** Under the Umbrella Tree (62322701) **3.00** Fraggle Rock (70313850) **3.30** Winnie the Pooh (62334546) **4.00** Quack Attack (62313053) **4.30** Ducktales (62319287) **5.00** Chip 'n' Dale (70325695) **5.30** Danger Bay (62333817) **6.00** Tarzan (62323430) **6.30** Dinosaurs (62314782) **7.00** Boy Meets World (70345459) **7.30** Thunder Alley (62310986) **8.00-10.00** FILM. Toast of New York (68476053)

EUROSPORT
7.30am Equestrianism (96411) **8.30** Extreme (66546) **9.30** Skiing (65409) **11.00** Supercross (54459) **12.00** Boxing (78053) **1.00pm** Eurofun (58275) **1.30** Parachuting (98817) **2.00** Skiing (21633) **3.00** Adventure (84530) **4.00** Motorsport (9169) **4.30** Extreme (67275) **5.30** Speedworld (47985) **6.30** Live Tennis (832879) **9.00** Football (22237) **10.00** News (41411) **10.30** Pro Wrestling (67456) **11.00** Extreme Games (35324) **12.00-12.30am** News (15569)

SKY SPORTS
7.00am World Sport (31508) **7.30** Racing (43343) **8.00** Golf (44256) **9.00** Aerobics Oz Style (35850) **9.30** The Big League (39966) **11.30** In-line Skating (18546) **12.00** Aerobics Oz Style (55814) **12.30pm** Nottingham Forest v Aston Villa (80904) **2.30** Tennis (45860) **4.00** Golf: *Times* Corporate Challenge (34099) **5.00** Max Out (3879) **5.30** Snowboard Tour (42377) **6.00** Centre (4650) **6.30** Tartan Extra (8430) **7.00** Everton v West Ham Utd (97942701) **10.15** Centre (888795) **10.45** Tartan Extra (443996) **11.15** Bushido (931256) **12.15am** Football (331541) **2.15-2.45** Centre (475744)

SKY SPORTS GOLD
10.00pm Cricket Hall of Fame (2187527) **10.30** Bobby Charlton's Football Scrapbook (4810091) **12.00-1.00am** Golf (5685170)

SKY TRAVEL
11.00am Globetrotter (1473411) **11.30** A Pestal Paradise (4880782) **12.30pm** Pierre Franey (2459985) **1.00** Around the World (7224184) **1.30** Travel Guide (2458256) **2.00** Trailside (4482275) **2.30** On Top of the World (2158548) **3.00** Getaway (4461782) **3.30-4.00** Boomerang (2153091)

THE HISTORY CHANNEL
4.00pm Our Century: D-Day (1497091) **5.00** History Alive (4485362) **6.00-7.00** Biography: H.G. Wells (2467904)



Marlene Dietrich is *Witness for the Prosecution* (Bravo, 4.00pm)

THE SCI-FI CHANNEL
7.00pm Mysteries, Magic and Miracles (4486091) **7.30** Ray Bradbury (2139411) **8.00-10.00** FILM: The Sentinel (66788343) **1.00am** Mysteries, Magic and Miracles (1596473) **1.30** Ray Bradbury Theatre (8818270) **2.00** FILM: Heikata (3029831) **3.30-4.00** Ray Bradbury (7229541)

TLC
9.00am Painting (3216091) **9.30** Martha Stewart (1132072) **10.00** Our House (6493072) **10.30** Get Well Soon (9212275) **11.00** Only Human (1738343) **12.00** Life Begins at 14 (9203527) **12.30pm** Jimmy's (1143188) **1.00** Martha Stewart (1749458) **1.30** Painting (1142459) **2.00** Hot House People (6494701) **3.00** Secret Gardens (7129701) **3.30-4.00** Our House (8768091)

UK GOLD
7.00am Angels (1742546) **7.30** Neighbours (1721053) **8.00** Sons and Daughters (9202898) **8.30** EastEnders (8201169) **9.00** The Bill (8295121) **9.30** The Sullivans (1134430) **10.00** Secret Army (1727237) **11.00** Dallas (1730701) **12.00** Sons and Daughters (9205985) **12.30pm** Neighbours (1145546) **1.00** EastEnders (1741817) **1.30** The Bill (1144817) **2.00** The Sullivans (23347099) **2.25** Are You Being Served? (3225701) **3.00** Angels (7138459) **3.30** Eldorado (8737121) **4.00** Casualty (96062850) **5.05** Larry Grayson's Generation Game (41389140) **6.15** Kenny's Comic Cuts (6526256) **6.25** EastEnders (2171904) **7.00** Eldorado (7113140) **7.30** Taxi (8753169) **8.00** George and Mildred (7139188) **8.30** Alas Smith and Jones (7118695) **9.00** Till Death Us Do Part (5570904) **10.00** The Bill (6328817) **10.35** The Best of Top of the Pops (8730850) **11.25** The Lenny Henry Show (7105275) **12.05am** Dr Who (2382218) **12.30** FILM: Roughshod (1672676) **2.00** Shopping at Night

TCC
6.00am Casper (86121) **7.00** Pink Panther (84411) **7.30** Ready or Not (83546) **8.00** Sweet Valley High (81053) **8.30** Casper (8339121) **8.45** Dinobabies (6987904) **9.00** Tiny TCC (8018614) **12.30pm** Tiny TCC (17072) **2.30** Happily Ever After (5169) **3.00** Sonic (5492) **3.30** New Pink Panther (1594) **4.00** California Dreams (9121) **4.30-5.00** Sweet Valley High (8633)

NICKELODEON
6.00am Blue (94614) **6.30** Count Duckula (19898) **7.00** Battlik (17358981) **7.05** Hero Turtles (3766237) **7.45** Rugrats (381617) **8.15** Doug (443121) **8.45** Rocko (5571817) **9.00** Alvin (33492) **9.30** Pee-Wee (81904) **10.00** Banana Sandwich (47169) **11.00** Children's BBC (50833) **12.00** Rocko (53256) **12.30pm** Aaahhh!! Real Monsters (62492) **1.00** Ship to Shore (21121) **1.30** Mighty Max (94091) **2.00** Speed Racer (6099) **2.30** Galaxy High School (4091) **3.00** Count Duckula (2304) **3.30** The Littlest Pet Shop (3506) **4.00** Hero Turtles (5343) **4.30** Rugrats (1527) **5.00** Clarissa (4121) **5.30** Wishbone (2879) **6.00** Doug (2452) **6.30** Are You Afraid? (6072) **7.00** Ferris Bueller (4985) **7.30-8.00** Sister Sister (2256)

DISCOVERY
4.00pm Rhino Brutals (8754896) **4.30** Earthfile (8743782) **5.00** Lonely Planet (7110053) **6.00** Invention (8764275) **6.30** Beyond 2000 (1682053) **7.30** Frontline (8744411) **8.00** Untamed Africa (5568782) **9.00** In the Path of a Killer Volcano (5578548) **10.00** Old Indians Never Die (5571633) **11.00-12.00** Sunday Drivers (1726508)

BRAVO
12.00 FILM. I'm All Right Jack (6400362) **2.00pm** The Sant (6498527) **3.00** Scotland Yard (7123527) **3.30** Man from Interpol (8762817) **4.00** FILM: Witness for the Prosecution (7127343) **6.00** Death Valley Days (8751701) **6.30** The Critic (8742053) **7.30** The Protectors (8748237) **8.00** The Saint (5552508) **9.00** Jason King (5565072) **10.00-12.00** FILM: Chopper Chicks in Zombie Town (1100865)

UK LIVING
6.00am Agony Hour (7681459) **7.00** Magazine (8362701) **9.00** Go for It (2284256) **9.30** Kate and Allie (5367508) **10.00** Hearts of Gold (1971546) **10.50** Entertainment Now! **11.00** The Young and the Restless (3135324) **11.55** Food and Drink (6288256

THIRSTY WORK 37
A MINIMUM WAGE WOULD ADD 10P TO A PINT OF BEER

BUSINESS

PRICE OF REFORM 38
GRAHAM SEARJEANT SAYS JAILS COST MORE THAN CORNER SHOPS

MONDAY DECEMBER 11 1995 BUSINESS EDITOR LINDSAY COOK

CBI calls for £2bn increase in state spending on transport

BY PHILIP BASSETT
INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

BRITAIN needs to increase its investment in transport by about £2 billion annually, with the Government meeting most of the cost, because private finance is "unable" to deliver what is necessary, business leaders argue today.

The call, by the Confederation of British Industry (CBI), for sharply increased government spending on transport, coupled with explicit criticisms of investment failure and government inaction over the past 20 years, amount to a significant rejection of current government policy on transport and a more openly interventionist stance by the CBI.

CBI leaders have insisted on the need for business to take a politically neutral line in the run-up to a general election, but its new proposals on transport are, like its education and training policies, more closely in line with Labour than Conservative thinking.

In a new business strategy for transport, *Moving Forward*, the CBI says today that Britain has under-invested in its transport infrastructure for the past 20 years compared with other European countries. In 1985-93 the UK invested 25 per cent less than France and 60 per cent less than Germany per head of population. The annual shortfall necessary to meet the investment gap in transport is about £2 billion, according to the CBI, which states that "private finance as yet remains unable to deliver this increase".

The CBI argues that the Government should use some of the £4 billion savings it identified ahead of the Budget to boost wealth creation, including transport. Projects would include reversing the planned cuts of 25 per cent or more in the national roads programme, reversing the funding cut in the railways and in local transport investment plans, and continued investment in UK airports, ports and transport research and development.

While the CBI acknowledges that the Government has expressed a strong dislike for the idea of a transport strategy, it detects signs of a "thaw" in this thinking, although CBI leaders insist that the debate on transport called for by Dr Brian Mawhinney before he moved to the chairmanship of the Conservative party "is no substitute for Government leadership and action."

Adair Turner, CBI Director-General, and Robert Napier, chairman of the CBI's transport policy commitee and chief executive of Redland, the manufacturer of construction industry materials, say: "Sadly, leadership and action have been conspicuously lacking."

Although all their points on under-investment relate to the period under the Conservatives, they say: "Successive governments have failed over the long term to invest properly, to integrate transport into strategic economic and environmental policies, and to build transport policy on broad political consensus." They add that there is "little in this year's Budget to signal a reversal of this poor track record." While greater investment in roads remains vital, the CBI says, the balance of investment must change in favour of other types of transport to help to encourage a switch away from cars and lorries.

Mr Turner says: "An efficient transport infrastructure is essential to national competitiveness. But the tensions between economic growth, transport growth, congestion and environmental quality threaten to become a Gordian knot which will strangle UK competitiveness."

CBI surprise, page 37

Outcry over Barings bonus for Tuckey

BY ROBERT MILLER

SPECULATION mounted in the City yesterday that ING, the Dutch owner of Barings, may be forced to terminate its consultancy agreement with Andrew Tuckey, the bank's former deputy chairman, after it emerged that he stands to be paid a bonus worth up to £500,000.

As the Barings saga continues to unfold, lawyers acting for Nick Leeson, the former Barings trader sentenced to 6½ years by a Singapore court, are deciding whether to appeal against the sentence before tomorrow's deadline.

Internationale Nederlanden Groep (ING), the Dutch banking and insurance combine that bought Barings for £1 and agreed to pay £860 million worth of debts, is understood to be concerned at the angry reaction from MPs and investors over plans to pay bonuses worth about £20 million to a number of senior executives.

Aad Jacobs, chairman of ING, has taken the view that the bank must pay the going market rates on salaries and bonuses to outstanding performers. Other City houses, such as Lazards and Goldman Sachs, are expected to pay generous bonuses after a successful 1995 for their corporate finance arms. In contrast, Salomon Brothers is set to cut its payouts. The embarrassment for ING lies in the fact that one of the main beneficiaries was the most senior executive of Barings — apart from Peter Baring, the chairman — at the time of the crash.

The Barings management was accused of "institutional incompetence" and a "total failure of internal controls" in the Singapore inspectors' report into the Barings crash, published in October.

The key personnel who stand to benefit most from the payout are employed in the Barings corporate finance department, which has enjoyed a highly profitable year advising on deals that included Glaxo's £9 billion takeover of Wellcome. Mr Tuckey, who resigned after the Barings crash with Peter Baring, was subsequently taken on again by ING, partly in view of his key role in Lloyds Bank's proposed £6 billion takeover of the TSB Group.

Alistair Darling, Labour's City affairs spokesman, said: "It is entirely wrong that anybody who was involved in the senior management at the time of the Barings crash should receive a single penny in bonuses. There are still investors who are due £100 million because of the crash and they should have first call on any funds." Mr Darling intends to raise the matter in the Commons this week.

David Shaw, the Conservative MP for Dover and a senior member of the Conservative backbench finance committee, said: "It seems to me that the fruits of any success enjoyed by Barings since the crash might have been actively used to help a great many innocent people who have suffered. I will continue to campaign for these investors to get a fair deal."

It is understood that the finance committee has had a briefing from the Securities and Futures Authority, the City watchdog for brokers and futures dealers, which is investigating the role of 12 former Barings directors, including Mr Tuckey. Of these, 11 have been suspended and only Mr Tuckey has been allowed to continue to work in the securities industry. SFA investigators told the MPs that they were "shocked" at the lack of controls in Barings. If any of the 12 are found guilty of rule breaches, they face an unlimited fine or even expulsion from the industry.

Jonathan Stone, lawyer for members of the Barings Bondholders Action Group, said yesterday: "I would have thought that the directors of ING would have a little more common sense than to be paying bonuses before putting a reasonable offer to bondholders to settle their grievances."

Mr Tuckey is believed to have earned, in 1993, £237,000, plus a bonus of £1.4 million and a pension contribution of £34,000. Peter Baring earned £212,000, a profit-share of £1 million and a pension contribution of £30,000.

Salomon cuts bonus, page 37

MICHAEL POWELL



It's good to talk: Tom Scott, a Chelsea Pensioner, speaks to friends and relatives throughout the world as Merrill Lynch, the international investment bank, allowed an invited group of London's senior citizens to use its telephones free of charge yesterday. More 500 people were allowed to make use of the service

Grid rush expected by City dealers

BY ALASDAIR MURRAY AND CHRISTINE BUCKLEY

TRADING in shares in the National Grid is expected to open briskly this morning as City institutions and index tracking unit trusts buy into the newest constituent of the FT-SE 100.

Dealers expect National Grid's quote to rise up to 15p from an opening price set by the grey market at 208p. But the price could drift down over the next few weeks as small shareholders begin to sell their holdings and some of the remaining near-50 per cent of undistributed shares come on the market.

Hanson, Scottish Power, NorthWest Water and Southern Company of the US all have a year to dispose of their Grid holdings, acquired after their Rec takeover bids.

Meanwhile, prices in the Recs will inevitably fall to reflect the effect of stripping out the Grid. This adjustment is expected to result in two Recs, London and Midland, losing their FT-SE 100 places.

The distribution of shares via seven Recs will create one million instant shareholders.

☐ LARGE industrial users of electricity are to press regional power companies and the electricity regulator for better standards after a survey showed up widespread power failures.

The Major Energy Users Group is to meet suppliers and Dr Brian Wharmby, technical director at the Office of Electricity Regulation.

Sparks fly, page 36

Directors' pay rises by 11%

BY OUR INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

COMPANY directors' pay has risen by up to 11 per cent over the past 12 months, according to a new study.

The survey of directors' pay will maintain pressure on companies and the stock exchange to implement recommendations of the government-backed Greenbury report on boardroom salaries.

The study, by Incomes Data Services, the pay analyst, expands its annual survey of FT-SE 100 companies into an examination of the top 250 companies for the first time.

Total remuneration for directors rose by an average 10.6 per cent from the financial year 1993-94 to 1994-95, the study shows, with total pay and other benefits of the top 250 companies' highest-paid directors — usually the chief executive — rising by an average 11.4 per cent and those of other directors by 10.2 per cent.

Such rises considerably outstrip the general level of pay rises in the economy, which is running at something over 3 per cent, and the inflation rate over the period. The inflation rate is currently 3.2 per cent.

The study says that although such pay rises may not be as publicly noticeable as those which led to establishment of the Greenbury inquiry, they confirm that "boardroom earnings growth has steadily, if less spectacularly, outstripped the 'going rate' across the economy".

The biggest rise recorded was of 158.9 per cent for a director of Storehouse, the retail group, made up of a 37.4 per cent salary rise and the award of short and long-term bonuses worth £205,000. It was followed by 97 and 81 per cent rises for the chief executive and the financial director of Low & Bonar.

Fourteen directors in studied companies earned more than £1 million each in 1994-95.

The biggest pay falls were a 74.7 per cent drop for a director of S G Warburg and a 51.5 per cent decline for a director of BAT. Virtually all recorded falls were because of bonus schemes not paying out.

IDS says that nearly £54 million of notional profit was made from share options by 225 directors in the top 250 companies in 1994 and 1995.

IDS says that disclosure of boardroom pay is improving, with at least half the top 250 already complying with Greenbury recommendations.

Accountants set to unveil plans for offshore move

BY JON ASHWORTH

PRICE WATERHOUSE and Ernst & Young are today expected to unveil plans to seek offshore registration for their businesses, in an attempt to protect partners from the threat of ruinous legal action.

The move, which comes days after the record £105 million damages award against BDO Binder Hamlyn, is certain to provoke a flood of interest from UK accountants and solicitors. It will also swing attention on to KPMG, which in October announced plans to turn its mainstream audit arm into a limited company.

Ernst & Young and Price Waterhouse had pledged to disclose their plans for incorporation by Christmas. They are understood to have approached an offshore financial centre, either the Channel Islands or the Isle of Man, and suggested the idea of legislation that would allow them to re-register as limited liability partnerships. Firms in America have been able to do this since 1994 — the so-called Delaware option, named for the state of Delaware, where most are now registered.

Legislation permitting professional firms to convert to limited-liability status could be enacted next year. Firms all over the world would be able to apply, on lodging a significant financial bond. This would restrict it to big partnerships.

The development represents a "too-good-to-be-true" option for UK accountants, who have spent months agonising over the issue of incorporation. Like their American counterparts, they will be able to switch to limited-liability status virtually overnight, leaving the structure of the firm unchanged. The culture will remain the same, and there will be no tax problems.

The Inland Revenue has indicated it will not oppose the proposals. Firms will continue to be resident in the UK, and pay tax as before. The Department of Trade and Industry has been consulted. Initial soundings with big clients have proved encouraging.

Up to 150 partners in the former BDO Binder Hamlyn face personal losses of up to £225,000 each in the wake of last week's High Court ruling. The firm is confident it will win on appeal, but the ruling served as a reminder of dangers associated with rising litigation against UK professionals.

Forte's demerger 'flawed'

The war of words between Granada Group and Forte intensified over the weekend with Gerry Robinson, Granada chief executive, claiming the Forte camp had switched the debate from "management to demerger." Mr Robinson argued that Forte's plans to demerge its restaurant interests are "flawed."

He said: "Forte's hotel and catering interests are a natural mix in terms of the utilisation of the workforce and purchasing operations. The demerger proposals smack of an artificial divide." He reiterated his criticism that Forte's defence document, issued on Friday, "added little to the debate."

People's quote

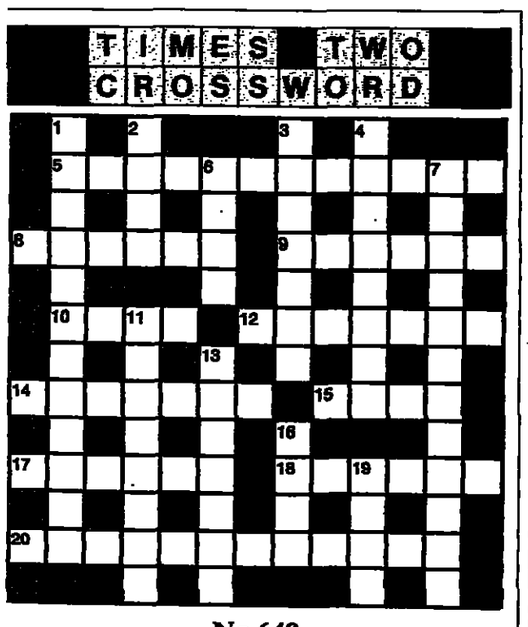
The People's Phone company, the mobile phone service provider and distributor, will seek a Stock Exchange listing next year, a move which is expected to value the company at more than £200 million. Charles Widoger, founder and chief executive, said the company is intent on raising capital to fund continued expansion.

£200m losses

Trafalgar House, the construction and engineering group, is expected to report losses of more than £200 million next week after a write-down of possibly £50 million on the value of Cunard.

Secret weapon, page 37

TIMES TWO CROSSWORD



No 649

ACROSS
5 Piece of bread and spread (4,8)
8 Abut (6)
9 Pass on (knowledge) (6)
10 Hoot: call like goose (4)
12 Governor in sovereign's name (7)
14 Cattle-thief (7)
15 Destined successor (4)
17 Recommendation (6)
18 Seize: fill (6)
20 Illustration at start of book (12)

DOWN
1 To snub, ignore (4-8)
2 Formally prevent (4)
3 Restrain, prevent (7)
4 (Suit) without waistcoat (3-5)
6 Go down; washing bowl (4)
7 Map-maker (12)
11 Substance providing nourishment (8)
13 Advantage (7)
16 Ceremonial display (4)
19 Masticate (4)

SOLUTION TO No 648
ACROSS: 1 Trespass 5 Stop 8 Inveigle 9 Prig 11 Verdi 12 Tie down 13 Sedate 15 Asylum 18 Finance 19 Augur 21 Coup 22 Sheepish 23 Sine 24 Flotilla
DOWN: 1 Thieves 2 Elver 3 Philistine 4 Salute 6 Turmoil 7 Pagan 10 Let's face it 14 Don Juan 16 Morphia 17 Lethal 18 Focus 20 Grill

AKOM LTD IS NOW OFFERING READERS OF THE TIMES FREE DELIVERY OF THE ITEMS LISTED BELOW AT STANDARD RETAIL PRICE — OFFER APPLIES UK ONLY.

TIMES CROSSWORDS: — Books 6, 8 and 10 to 13 £3.99 each. Books 14 to 19 £3.50 each. NEW! Omnibus (Christmas) edition - 120 Times crosswords £4.99. The Times Concise — Book 2 (240 puzzles) £4.99. Books 3 to 6 £3.50 each. Times Two NEW Book 3 £2.99. The Times Jumbo - Books 1 & 2 £4.99 each. Jumbo Concise Book 1 £4.99.
SUNDAY TIMES CROSSWORDS: — Books 10 to 13 £3.50 each. The Sunday Times Concise — Books 1 to 3 £3.50 each. SPECIAL OFFER: Any five crossword books (above) £15.

Send cheques with order payable to Akom Ltd 51 Manor Lane, London SE13 5QW. Delivery to 8 days. Tel. 0181-852 4575 (24hrs.) No credit cards.

MIDLAND



Midland Bank plc is an affiliate member of the British Franchise Association.

Will I lose money if I buy a franchise?

There are always risks involved in becoming self-employed. Losing money is never your intention when setting up in business, and for this reason, you're looking to minimise the risk. Franchising can be a safer option. At Midland we'll help you decide whether franchising is for you. For instance, we'll give you advice on the pros and cons, and arm you with the questions that need to be asked as well as helping you to evaluate the answers. If you go ahead, we can provide you with all the necessary business banking facilities to get you up and running. In fact, virtually everything you need to consider before going into a franchise is detailed in our information pack. For your free copy, fill in the coupon or call us free on 0800 180 180

The Listening Bank

Member HSBC Group

Telephone charges apply at all Credit/Charge card transactions under £2,000.

edged that poverty in Peru has worsened, if anything. In 1982, future is being pinned, will pull up stumps and go home.

TV & radio: MW 1197, 1215. TALK RADIO UK: MW 1053, 1089. Television and radio listings compiled by Peter Dear, Gillian Maxey, Rosemary Smith and Susan Thomson